

Buying panic as gold soars to record \$630

A lack of confidence in paper money, particularly the dollar, led to an unprecedented rush for gold yesterday, with the London market price closing at \$630 an ounce, up \$62.50 on the day. Dealers remained uncertain as to when profit taking would set in, bringing the price down.

Slump of confidence in paper money

By David Blake
Economics Editor

The great gold rush dominating the world's money markets yesterday, in which the price of gold rose to a record \$630 an ounce, was the result of a slump in confidence in paper money, particularly the dollar.

The European buying panic followed Hong Kong, where trading was so hectic that dealers suspended trading as gold broke through the \$650 barrier. By the end of Hong Kong trading, at the European centres were opening, some sort of normality had been established. After an unusually protected session to fix the price for London trading, the opening level was set at \$632.

There was heavy intervention by central banks across Europe to try to prop up the dollar. At the end of the day, the intervention had limited the dollar's losses to only 0.1 per cent, pushing its effective exchange rate down to 81.5 per cent of its 1971 level.

Concern at turmoil in currency markets

Sterling lost a few points against the dollar but its effective rate continued to rise. Its increase in recent weeks has come in spite of the stream of bad economic news, including the national steel strike. Its effective rate rose by 0.3 per cent to close at 70.5 per cent of its 1971 value.

There are clear signs of growing concern at official level about the turmoil in the world currency markets. The gyrations of the gold price were discussed at the first regular meeting this year of the West German federal bank's central council in Frankfurt. The bank reacted when the effects of gold spilled over into the foreign exchange market.

Hundreds injured on the slide to work

By Martin Huckerby

A combination of ice, snow and freezing rain made the journey to work treacherous for millions yesterday, with hundreds of pedestrians injured and a large number of road accidents.

In London the Ambulance Service said it was their worst day for more than a decade. Sleet and rain froze into black ice on the roads.

The driver of a tanker was killed near Doncaster, Yorkshire, after the tanker, carrying sulphur dioxide, skidded and overturned. It took five hours to free his body with two 70-tonne cranes.

Although snowfalls caused particular difficulties in the north of England and Scotland, it was in the South and Midlands where the treacherous surfaces caught people most unawares.

The number of emergency calls in the London area was so great that during the morning the London Ambulance Service put out appeals for people to avoid using the 999 service unless it was absolutely necessary. They asked people with minor injuries to make their own way to hospital.

Instead of the normal 100 calls an hour, the ambulance service received 380 between 9.00 am and 10.00 am yesterday, mainly about accidents in which people had slipped and fallen, breaking arms, legs and ankles or injuring their heads.

Hamshire Ambulance Service, which had 80 calls in four hours, said: "It's just gone mad. The number of calls we've been receiving is ridiculous. Most involved people injured in falls although there were more than 20 casualties from road crashes. There were seven people injured in one crash on the A27 Winchester to Petersfield road."

A coach with a party of mentally handicapped children was in a crash in South Nutfield, Surrey, but it is understood that no one was injured. More than 20 were involved in an accident on the A3 at Cobham, Surrey, and Scotland Yard said there were 46 accidents on the London part of the A3 between 9.00 am and 11.00 am. Some sections of the A3 were closed, as were parts of the A10 near Cambridge and the M40 in the Thames Valley. The police said the roads were unsafe to drive on until they had been salted.

In the Midlands, Derbyshire police said conditions were "horrible". There were at least 10 vehicles in an accident on the M1 near Chesterfield. "We have had to impose a 20 mph limit on the motorway. Even then it is almost impossible to stop."

West Yorkshire police said there had been "countless" snow, sleet, multi-vehicle accidents. Elsewhere, roads in Warwickshire were blocked by lorries jack-knifed in the icy conditions and roads were blocked by snow in northern Lancashire.

Some trains into London were seriously delayed after freezing rain caused the brakes to ice up on several Southern Region trains. The worst black ice disappeared during the day in many parts of the country, but the AA said that snow, sleet and icy conditions were persisting in much of northern England and Scotland.

Trans-Pennine routes were only passable with care. Forecast, page 2



Patriotic Front guerrillas arrive at a monitoring force base in Rhodesia to be received by British troops. (Report, page 5.)

Soviet envoy in 'tough' Downing St meeting

By Michael Huxford
Political Reporter

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, had what was described as a "prexy tough" meeting with Mr Nikolai Lukov, the Soviet Ambassador, yesterday over the Soviet Union's move into Afghanistan. The Ambassador had requested the meeting to deliver a reply from President Brezhnev to the Prime Minister's letter protesting against Soviet involvement in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

It is clear from the fact that the meeting lasted 40 minutes that there was a strong exchange of views. As he left Downing Street, Mr Lukov told reporters: "The Prime Minister tried to defend her position, but I acted on behalf of our President and explained to her and the Foreign Secretary our position (the Press Association reports)."

"I confirmed especially this fact: That we want some limited military contingents to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government. It is to reassure Britain's friends after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. He will visit some other countries on the way, notably Oman and Turkey, and may also go to Saudi Arabia. Lord Carrington wants to express British concern and assure the leaders of these countries that they can count on their friends in the West."

Letters, page 11

istan. He emphasized that it was a "bilateral matter" between Afghanistan and Russia.

Mr Lukov denied that the meeting, which he called a "serious exchange of views", was hostile. "I think we have so many things in common. Both sides are interested in stability and peaceful coexistence."

Mrs Thatcher told the Ambassador of her "very serious concern" over Afghanistan and said she hoped there would be an early withdrawal of Soviet troops. She is also understood to have repeated her point that the only country involved in Afghanistan's internal affairs was the Soviet Union. Carrington told Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, to go to Islamabad from January 14 to 16 (writes our Diplomatic Correspondent).

The aim of his visit, during which he hopes also to go to India, is to reassure Britain's friends after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. He will visit some other countries on the way, notably Oman and Turkey, and may also go to Saudi Arabia. Lord Carrington wants to express British concern and assure the leaders of these countries that they can count on their friends in the West."

Russia accuses Britain of aiding Afghan rebels

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Jan 3

The Russians today accused President Carter of making "belittling and wicked" statements about Soviet policy in Afghanistan, which he had "maliciously attacked", distorting its essence and meaning.

In its first public reaction since Mr Thomas Watson, the American Ambassador, to Moscow, was recalled for consultations, the official Tass news agency accused the United States and the West of a "frenzied propaganda campaign" over the "collapse of the imperialist plans in Afghanistan."

This, Tass said, "breaks all records for hypocrisy and lies". It said it was remarkable that a most high-ranking figure of the Washington Administration had joined in the outcry.

The strongly worded commentary by a Tass political observer, authorized at the highest level, referred to the television interview on Monday in which President Carter said Mr Brezhnev had not told him the truth about Afghanistan.

Tass did not mention this comment, but the savage tone of the article reflected Soviet anger at what the Russians consider a personal slur on their leader.

Mr Carter's talk of a Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was a distortion of the truth, Tass said, repeating the claim that Soviet intervention was in keeping with the United Nations Charter and the military clauses in the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship.

The Russians had also never hidden the fact that they would not allow Afghanistan to be turned into a base for imperialist aggression.

Tass accused the American Central Intelligence Agency, together with British and Chinese secret services, of training, arming and sending into Afghanistan "criminal gangs of terrorists—feudal landlords, moneylenders and other elements, who after the revolution lost the possibility of exploiting the Afghan people."

Washington was now calling for the withdrawal of what Tass referred to as the "limited Soviet military contingent" which would be used solely to help to repel interference in Afghanistan's affairs.

Carrington had been repeatedly to Washington and London to stop sending military units armed with Western weapons into Afghanistan from Pakistan, to end their interference, and to give up plans to stifle the revolution.

Continued on page 5, col 1

Mr Sirs challenges BSC to talk again

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Steel union leaders yesterday held out the prospect of an early end to the national steel strike if the British Steel Corporation offers money in advance as an "enabling payment" for a productivity scheme.

As the strike entered its second day with all iron and steel production in the public sector at a halt, there was confusion at BSC headquarters over what the unions were offering.

Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman, said he had not heard of the peace move by Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, but added: "We have got to get back into serious negotiations with our unions and I sincerely hope that the opening made by Mr Sirs will provide such an opportunity."

At a Press conference earlier Mr Sirs said: "They should put half of the amount for productivity on the table as an offer and we will see what will happen."

He refused to say how much was needed to call off the strike and continue negotiations, but about 5 per cent seems likely. That would be in addition to the 5 per cent offer the union rejected.

Mr Sirs added: "If the corporation will not accept the challenge, then all I can say is that it is going to be a long, hard winter."

Mr Sirs' initiative came towards the end of an eight-hour board meeting at BSC during which directors, including union representatives, discussed the grave situation caused by the strike.

Sir Charles said last night that he wanted to see the full text of Mr Sirs' statement before making any new moves, but he did not rule out the possibility of a move to end the ISTC today.

Dr David Gries, a senior BSC executive, said that any money derived from the productivity scheme had to be earned.

Union support for the strike is increasing, Mr Sirs said he had received promises of help from steelworkers in West Germany and Japan.

The International Metal Workers Federation announced in Geneva that it had asked its members throughout the world to show solidarity with the British steel men. Mr Sirs is due to meet Mr Herman Rehman, the federation's general secretary, at Heathrow airport today to discuss tactics.

They are also being supported by the National Union of Railwaymen and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, who are blacking steel shipments. The Kent area of the National Union of Mineworkers has called for the TUC conference to be reconvened to discuss the steel strike. Mr Sirs said that the union's pickets would be tightening their grip on steel stockholders to try to prevent their stocks being distributed. If it was found that stockholders were supplying customers who normally bought direct from BSC, he said, pickets would be issued with cameras to get evidence against hauliers transporting the steel. He did not rule out the possibility of flying pickets being used. Our Industrial Editor writes: Sir Charles Villiers said after the board meeting that the board had considered every aspect of the very grave position. The board remains confident that its contingency plan will be sufficient to meet all the consequences of the strike, although Sir Charles said the position would be "very tight". There has been no change in the tight financial constraints placed on BSC by the Government, which is refusing to fund operating losses beyond the end of March. The board yesterday deferred any decision on its plans to drastically reduce steel-making capacity in South Wales, but is expected to reach a decision by the end of this month. Between 12,000 and 15,000 jobs are threatened at the two integrated steel-making plants of Port Talbot and Llanwern. Pickets, regional developments and photograph, page 2

The energy answer will not be a lemon

By Alan Hamilton

The news that a Kidderminster man has run a small electric motor for five months on the power of one lemon, revealed yesterday, has delivered the scientific community a shock calculated at slightly less than one volt.

Experts are agreed that Britain must find alternative sources of energy in the next decade.

Engineers at the Chloride group of Manchester, one of the lemon companies exploring new kinds of batteries and electric vehicles, are sceptical of the claims of Mr Anthony Ashill, who says that his motor is still running although his lemon is black and shrivelled.

Chloride scientists, who have plugged in lemons under laboratory conditions, calculate that one fruit will produce sufficient electricity to power, at best, a digital watch. They estimate the output of one good fruit at 10 microwatts, enough for a tiny pulse.

Mr John Jones, of Chloride, said: "The lemon is a perfectly well known power source, and has long been used to demonstrate the principle of the battery to schoolchildren. Place one copper and one zinc wire in a half lemon, place your tongue on them, and the acid in the fruit will produce a very small shock."

On the scientists' calculations, it would take 10 million lemons to power one television set, and 5,000 million lemons to power a small electric vehicle, which would be far from large enough to carry that much fruit about. A rough calculation by Chloride indicates that to power three small electric vehicles would swallow the entire citrus production of Israel.

The problem is exactly that facing battery designers, and delaying development of the electric car. Despite encouraging experiments with a sodium sulphur battery, engineers have not yet fully solved the difficulty of making a powerful energy source that is not impossible to handle.

Lemon power is an unattractive option for the United Kingdom, which has no indigenous lemon groves and is unlikely to discover lush citrus groves under the North Sea.

Last year we imported 43,223 tonnes of lemons, enough to power 40 light bulbs, or four electric fires, at a cost of £10.5m. But it is a politically advantageous energy source, most of our supplies coming from the relative stability of the EEC or Spain.

But as one of the main areas of production is Sicily, it is conceivable that any future Organisation of Lemon Exporting Countries could fall under the control of organised crime. The United States is, however, well placed, with large reserves in California.

Power from living things is a far from new concept. Galvani, the electrical pioneer, demonstrated the principles of the battery in the eighteenth century by using frogs' legs and vinegar. But for the present, nuclear energy is likely to remain the cheaper and technically less demanding option. And, the engineers point out, a small dry cell torch battery at 7p is still cheaper than a lemon.

Axel Springer's elder son kills himself

Hamburg, Jan 3.—Herr Axel Springer, the elder son of the West German publisher of Die Welt, has committed suicide, a spokesman for the company said. Herr Springer, aged 39, held an editorial post in his father's national weekly, the Welt am Sonntag newspaper. He took his own life with one shot from a revolver last night in Hamburg. He was divorced and had two children and was suffering from depression after contracting an unspecified ailment six months ago.—AP.

President Tito goes into hospital for check up

From Dassa Trevisan
Belgrade, Jan 3

President Tito has gone into hospital for a medical check up. Doctors said the examination would concentrate on his blood circulation.

The Yugoslav leader, who is 87, spent New Year's Eve with friends at his hunting lodge north of Belgrade. The check up is said to be routine and the advice of his doctors, but the president was noticeably in pain and walking with a cane a few days ago.

He has been suffering from sciatica for some years but his condition improved. Last summer when he discarded the cane and undertook a strenuous journey to the non-aligned nations conference in Havana. Since then he has kept a busy schedule although spending most of his time out of Belgrade.

Last month he was host to the traditional annual hunting party for diplomats and was reported to be in excellent health.

'Vipers' at Foreign Office—Mr Powell

Mr Enoch Powell attacked the Government's policy for Northern Ireland and condemned the Foreign Office as "that nest of vipers". He said it had been a source of continuous hostility to Unionism for years. The remarks will be seen as a last-minute defence of the Official Unionists' refusal to take part in the forthcoming constitutional conference (Our Political Correspondent writes) Page 3

Indian poll deaths

Three Harijans, formerly known as Untouchables, were shot dead in an election class in a village in Uttar Pradesh. It was the most serious incident of violence during polling in 244 constituencies in the Indian general election. The second round of polling will be held on Sunday Page 4

Fire bomb alert

A fire bomb alert disrupted dealings on the Scottish Stock Exchange in Glasgow for 45 minutes. The exchange was evacuated after flames shot out of the building as two men examined it. They were not hurt. The building also contains the South African Consulate Page 4

Child care attacked

Plans for child health services in Liverpool are inept, shoddy and incompetent, a report by two university lecturers says. Children are little more than "pawns" in a National Health Service game, they conclude. Page 2



Yangtze escape recalled: The breakout of the frigate HMS Amerly (above) down the Yangtze river after being trapped for months by communist troops advancing in the closing stages of the civil war in China is related in the newly released Whitehall files for 1949. Page 4

Kidney aid pledged

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, promised that patients waiting for kidney transplant operations would not be put at risk because of lack of money in the National Health Service. Page 2

Presidential rebuke for Italian minister

A despondent interview declaring that Italy's condition was so parlous as to be almost beyond hope has led to a rebuke for an Italian minister from President Pertini. Professor Massimo Giannini, who deals with administrative reform, told a Milan weekly that the country's institutions no longer functioned and forecast that economically "1980 will be the worst year in our history" Page 4

Capsules banned: Tear gas "novelties" sold in joke shops judged to be capable of causing trouble at demonstrations or football matches Page 2

Retrial ordered: Static electricity makes document stick to magazine exhibit so judge halts Nottingham trial Page 3

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STEEL STRIKE

Corby flying pickets going to ports to help enforce new union ban on movements of foreign steel

From Nicholas Timmins
Corby

Flying pickets from the Corby steelworks, in Northamptonshire, are due this morning at the docks at King's Lynn, Norfolk, and Boston, Lincolnshire, to try to enforce a ban on the movement of imported steel from the ports.

The pickets, 15 to each port, were ordered to the docks yesterday by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation after 500 tonnes of Austrian and Dutch steel left the docks at King's Lynn for the Midlands.

Later dockers at King's Lynn halted the flow of foreign steel from the docks on the instructions of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

With all steel production in the British Steel Corporation halted, the feeling among the Corby steelworkers is that they need to stop steel movements throughout the country to try to shorten a dispute that many fear could be long and bitter.

At the Corby plant, where 5,500 jobs are to go because steel making there is being stopped, the mood on the first two days of the strike has been one of grim determination, despite the prospect of unemployment for many only a few months away.

With the battle to save steel-making lost, they believe the 6 per cent pay offer is a slap in the face. Asked how long they will stay out, the pickets say: "As long as it takes".

Six thousand jobs will remain at the plant's tube works, where BSC is investing £45m.

Mr Robert Seane, an ISTC

branch secretary in a section to be closed, said: "The strike is not for us. We are finished. It is for those who are left behind."

Mr Ivor Davis, aged 54, a locomotive man with 29 years' service, said: "We know the strike will do a lot of harm, but BSC has got to realize we cannot be messed about."

"The people have still to go to a shop and buy a loaf of bread, the same as the miners, who have just got 20 per cent. And I cannot see the bakers giving you a cheap loaf just because you are on a low wage."

There is a strong feeling that the Government, after the miners' settlement, has taken on the traditionally moderate steelworkers as a soft option.

In the town feeling over the strike is divided.

Many of the wives are worried about the financial risks with redundancy ahead. Others are even more vehemently opposed to the pay offer than their men. But many of those not directly involved in the steelworks believe the steelworkers are cutting their own throats.

Many of the women are worried that the strike will affect the £30m severance agreement signed last week, which will provide sums ranging from about £6,000 a year to more than £20,000 for a few skilled men with long service.

Mr Michael Skelton, ISTC strike coordinator, said the union had a categorical assurance from the management that the payments would not be reduced by the strike. He added that some of the 1,200 blast-

furnacemen who had been going to work now agreed to join the strike.

Mr Harold Ford, BSC's Corby group director, said yesterday: "We made an agreement and we shall honour it. The only way we would not is if the strike went on and on and the corporation was utterly bust."

Public houses in the town are already beginning to feel the pinch, although most shops report that trading is still good.

For the long term they are surprisingly optimistic, partly because of the redundancy payments and because of the aggressive attitude of the district council and the Corby Development Corporation.

Those bodies yesterday announced plans that they believe will bring 5,000 new jobs to the town by the end of 1982; about enough to match those lost from the steel works.

Our King's Lynn Correspondent writes: Mr James Bowman, the Dockers' Branch Chairman, said of the TGWU ban on lorry movement that from 1 pm today no steel will come off the docks.

"We asked the management not to agree to the movement of steel until we have a meeting with our district officer. The management agreed."

Mr Maurice Lodes, chairman of a King's Lynn shipping line and head of a haulage firm, said he hoped to distribute 400 tonnes of foreign steel to the Midlands today.

"Imported steel means survival to the port of King's Lynn. A ban on it will have far-reaching effects for both dockers and lorry drivers."



Mr William Sirs, of the ISTC, and Mr Hector Smith, of the blastfurnacemen's union, at a London press conference yesterday.

'Jobs at risk' if imports are barred

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain's steel stockholders face the prospect of increased picketing by the world's steelworkers. Intensification of picketing could quickly lead to supply difficulties for key steel-using industries that traditionally have bought supplies direct from the British Steel Corporation.

The move coincided yesterday with a warning by Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, that many more jobs in industry could be at risk if foreign competitors were persuaded by British trade unions to take action over the strike.

The move against stock-

holders was announced by Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. The tightening of the grip, he emphasised, would be directed primarily at any stockholder who attempted to deliver steel to customers who normally bought from BSC. Stockholders represent the vital link in the supply chain between steel producers and customers. They account for about 40 per cent of deliveries to the United Kingdom market and they have about 16 weeks of supplies in stock at normal rates of consumption.

Limited picketing of stockholders, one in the North-east and another in Sheffield, is already taking place.

In a letter to Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress said that about a fifth of steel used in the United Kingdom was imported. And if that was the case, he said, the merits of the dispute with BSC "it cannot make any kind of sense to place at risk the jobs of some four million trade unionists employed in the British steel-using industry who are not involved and cannot influence the outcome of the present dispute."

Elsewhere the effect of the dispute is being felt already. In South Wales the National Coal Board face severe stockpiling but the NCB has decided to take a new route, cutting out Carlisle, Thurston, Aspatia,

HOME NEWS

Children as 'pawns' in NHS game

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Plans to rationalise child health services in Liverpool are being used at demonstrations or football matches to cause disturbance, are now banned under the Tear-Gas Capsules (Safety) Order, which was recently examined by the Commons and Lords Joint Committee on statutory instruments. The committee's report was published yesterday.

It describes how Mr F. W. Stacey, assistant secretary, and Mr A. M. Susman, senior legal assistant, Department of Trade, were called to explain the order.

A memorandum from the department stated that the definition of "tear-gas capsule" was restricted to an article intended to afford amusement to any person by causing discomfort. The committee was told: "The definition is so limited because the purpose of the order was to prohibit the supply of tear-gas capsules as novelties or jokes."

The authors, Mr Andy Alaszewski, a lecturer in health services, and Mr Daniel Vukobratovic, a lecturer in applied economics at Hull University, conclude that children as pawns in the game.

Their evaluation accuses the working party of basing its conclusions on false assumptions, and says that, if implemented, its proposals will not save money but in the end cost the NHS millions of pounds.

Capital costs of the proposed investment were grossly underestimated, and the savings overestimated. The working party's sums were so poorly composed that the rationality of the rationalization proposed was in doubt.

Nothing has been learnt, the authors say, from the costly fiasco of the new Royal Liverpool Hospital, which cost £55m, far more than the original estimate, resulted in 210 fewer beds, at cost £1,200,000 a year more to run than hospitals it replaced.

The working party advocated substantial changes, concentrating all secondary care for children at one hospital, Alder Hey. Services now provided by three other hospitals would be moved to Alder Hey. The authors say, are guaranteed but the developments were not. There was a notable lack of serious consideration of alternatives.

Apart from one item, the backlog of maintenance, the conversion of Alder Hey to a small teaching hospital had not been costed. Maintenance would cost more than £1m.

There was no provision in the working party's estimates for the cost of equipment. In its tables of changed bed allocations the working party had lost 20 beds. That meant that after Herwall hospital closed in 1982, 20 mentally handicapped children would have no beds.

The working party in the author's view, was dominated by medical consultants, and evidence was largely taken from doctors. Only one nurse gave evidence, and none was sought from other NHS staff.

Tear-gas capsules sold in joke shops for amusement are banned

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Tear-gas capsules, imported from Germany and sold in joke shops for "amusement or entertainment" but capable of being used at demonstrations or football matches to cause disturbance, are now banned under the Tear-Gas Capsules (Safety) Order, which was recently examined by the Commons and Lords Joint Committee on statutory instruments. The committee's report was published yesterday.

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Lord Segal, who was in the RAF medical branch during the war, thought it would have been advisable to omit altogether the purpose for which the capsules were sold. He added:

Mr Susman said that the design or intention was that of the supplier, not the purchaser, and all such sales would be prohibited. "If these capsules sold in joke shops were purchased by people not intending to use them as practical jokes but to cause trouble at football matches or to use them as weapons at political demonstrations, the fact that the shopkeeper sold them as jokes is what matters and the purchaser's intention would not take them outside the order."

Mr (now Sir) Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby, who is a solicitor, wanted to know if there was any other law under which persons could be prosecuted for throwing tear-gas capsules deliberately for purposes other than amusement.

Mr Susman replied that the general criminal law relating to offences against the person would cover such cases. The order related only to the supply of capsules. No other legislation would cover the supply of capsules.

Lord Alredale asked whether it was not true, under the order as it stood, that the shopkeeper could say to customers: "I have these capsules in stock. Had you been going to use them as a joke I would not have supplied them, because if I did I would commit an offence. Since you say you are all right, you say you will not be using them to amuse anybody."

Mr Susman said the shopkeeper would be caught by the order because the offence was to supply, offer to supply, agree to supply, or possess for supply any injurious tear-gas capsule.

A Department of Trade official said last night that the order was made because there was a serious danger of damage to the eyes of children and others.

Dr Vaughan promises kidney aid

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, said yesterday that in future patients waiting for a kidney transplant operation would not be put at risk because of lack of money in the National Health Service.

His assurance was given to patients at Dulwich Hospital, south-east London, who, led by Mr Michael Bewick, a consultant surgeon who specializes in kidney transplants, were waiting for a kidney transplant operation. Vaughan said that the Department of Health headquarters in London to protest about a ban on operations until next April to save money.

Dr Vaughan said that he might not be able to help immediately. But he was meeting Mrs Elizabeth Ward, president of the British Kidney Patient Association, on Monday to discuss an offer of help. The association has agreed to pay for kidney transplant operations at the hospital until March 31.

The Dulwich patients handed a letter to Dr Vaughan saying that the commissioners who had taken over the running of the area under the health authority had been dismissed for not implementing cuts in services were attempting to break the Tory party promise not to reduce services to patients in order to save money.

Sixth-form colleges 'an institutionalized error'

From Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The distinction between primary, secondary and further education was harmful and should be abandoned, Mr Harry Judge, Director of the Department of Educational Studies at Oxford University, told the North of England conference on education in Durham yesterday.

Sixth forms should be abolished and educationists should think and plan only in terms of the 16-plus system, between compulsory and post-compulsory education, he said. Secondary education was still regarded as essentially an 11-18 operation and education for 11 to 15-year-olds was seen primarily as an anteroom to the sixth form with its accent on the academic as opposed to the technical or utilitarian.

Comprehensive reorganization had not resulted in the abolition of the grammar school so much as in the abolition of the secondary modern school. Until sixth forms were removed from schools the

whole system would continue to be based on inappropriate values. Fewer "second-rate academic snobs" and more students with technical skills, were needed, Mr Judge said.

Educational provision for the 16 to 19 age group should be made in tertiary colleges providing a range of vocational courses, and not in sixth-form colleges, which were an institutionalized error. That error was that thinking was more important than doing and that a sixth-form college was superior to any other college of further education.

Mr Judge said mandatory grants for degree students should be abolished and the resources redistributed across a wider age range and among all types and levels of courses. He said that the Government's policy of subsidizing salaried university students disappeared, so much the better. The present 15-19 "mess" was directly responsible for a scandalous waste of resources and talent, Mr Judge said. He called on the Government to abolish the system without detailed interference, to the system it ultimately controlled.

£500m 'hidden subsidy' given to private schools

By Frances Gibb

The Government is funding the private sector of education by an estimated £500m a year through hidden subsidies, an analysis published yesterday claims.

The charitable status of independent schools, local authority funding of places and allowances for the Armed Forces and diplomatic staff are the main ways the Government is contributing financially to private education, it says.

Last year the subsidy amounted to at least £350m, but a more likely figure was £500m, and the bottom of the barrel has still to be reached, it claims.

The article, by Mr Rick Rodgers, an education correspondent, is published in *Where*, the journal of the educational charity, the Advisory Centre for Education, based in east London.

It aims to provide information about the education service. "There is still colossal ignorance about the complexities of the education service, how to set about choosing a school or funding a pre-school place, how to get a grant and so on", Mr Peter Newell, the centre's director, said.

In another article the magazine says that the "fast food industry" is ready to pounce when the Education Bill, now in committee stage, becomes law and leaves local authorities free to abolish school meals.

Left to their own devices many children will "buy sugary and/or fatty snacks for lunch", Ms Caroline Walker, a nutritionist, says.

Claims denied: Mr Timothy Devlin, director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said the centre's figures were "grossly, unacceptably, highly speculative, completely muddled and utterly one-sided" (the Press Association reports).

Where to find out more about education (Advisory Centre for Education, 100 Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PB, £5.50 a year).

Fire bomb alert clears stock exchange

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

More than 500 employees in the Scottish Stock Exchange brokers' offices and in the South African Government consulate were evacuated by police from the building in St George's Place, in the centre of Glasgow, yesterday when an incendiary bomb was found in a lane used as a tradesmen's entrance and as a fire exit for the offices.

A box was examined by Mr James Brown, aged 59, the commissioner and by Mr James Dunn, aged 74, the caretaker, and when they opened the box, which they said resembled a toolbox, flames shot out. A bomb disposal squad confirmed it to be a fully detonated incendiary device.

Mr Brown said: "The moment I touched it the box blew open with a bang and flames shot out like fireworks on a Guy Fawkes night, only a lot more frightening."

Mr John Gibson, the assistant general manager of the Stock Exchange, said that the box had been noticed for the past one or two days. "The two men decided that they should have a look at it. There was a hissing noise, a bang, followed by a puff of smoke and flames."

It was decided immediately to evacuate the building and clear the market floor of the exchange.

Police sealed off the area and asked the general manager of the Stock Exchange to open an open mind on who might be responsible for the incident.

Det Chief Superintendent Macrae, joint head of Strathclyde CID, said: "The two employees who touched the device before telling us about it were very fortunate. Had it been an explosive they could have been blown sky-high. As it is, we have only fragments, which are now being examined at the forensic laboratory."

"We have no idea for whom it was intended. Not only is there the Stock Exchange and the South African consulate in the building, but there are other offices adjacent within the same premises, the KLM (Dutch airline), and the Pakistan Airline offices, for instance."

Heart patient out of intensive care

Mr Andrew Barlow, aged 29, who had a heart transplant at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, in November, was moved yesterday from the intensive care unit to a single room.

His visitors will still have to wear masks, but no longer gowns. A hospital official said the change of room indicated continuing satisfactory progress.

Helicopter lifts bodies from raft

The bodies of a young man and a young woman were recovered from a life raft 60 miles west of Land's End yesterday by an RAF helicopter from Culdroe.

They were spotted on Wednesday by a Spanish fishing boat but could not be lifted on board because they were too decomposed. They were wearing the tattered remains of yachting clothing.

Correction

In the recent *Hardfordshire*, South-west, by-election, Labour retained 61 per cent of its vote in Mar. 1979, not 80 per cent as stated in our article by Ivor Crews on December 15.

North-east battle to keep huge furnace burning

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

One of the most critical features of the steel strike in the North-east is the effort to keep the huge blast furnace at the British Steel Corporation's Redcar works.

It is the biggest in Europe and ranks among the most modern in the world. It produces 10,000 tonnes of iron a day for steelmaking, employs 437 people, and had it not been for the strike it would have produced 18 to 20 million tonnes of iron in the first five years of operation.

The BSC is particularly anxious to acknowledge the help of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen in damping down the furnace and in providing agreed manning levels to ensure that the furnace is not permitted to go cold.

The entire steelmaking effort in the North-east depends on the big blast furnace, which is the sole source of supply of iron for steelmaking in the region.

A BSC official said that the corporation did not have experience of a furnace of that size and therefore could not be absolutely sure what might happen to it.

"We believe we are doing all we can, but one can never be 100 per cent sure," he said. "If it did go cold it would take a very long time to get it back into operation. If this goes well we could have it back in a fortnight."

Another area in which difficulties might occur is the coke ovens complex at Redcar. It was necessary to produce a minimum amount of coke to keep the fires burning properly. That was being done with the blastfurnacemen's help. If the coke ovens went cold it would be impossible to produce coke for steelmaking.

In other parts of the north no new trouble arose yesterday. Companies importing steel for private industry were not impeded in discharging vessels at Goole.

A firm of shipping agents said, however, that it had suffered slightly because no steel for BSC was being handled.

At Sheffield, Teesside and Scunthorpe BSC works no new experience of a furnace of that size and therefore could not be absolutely sure what might happen to it.

Worldwide plea for support of metalworkers

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Jan 3

The International Metalworkers' Federation in Geneva announced today that it has asked its member trade unions throughout the world to show solidarity with the striking steel workers in Britain.

Mr Kurt Casserini, the federation's assistant general secretary, said that the federation had asked the world to show solidarity with the striking steel workers in Britain. He said that the federation's general secretary would be in London tomorrow to meet Mr William Sirs, the general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and the two men would be holding a joint press conference.

It emerged today that the international Metalworkers' Federation has been kept informed of developments by the British iron and steel trade unions from the time that a strike seemed probable.

Mr Sirs was in Luxembourg last week meeting fellow trade unionists from the steel industry, and it was there that the decision for solidarity was taken.

Feelings are running high among the Shotton strikers, who were already angered by the British Steel Corporation's decision to stop iron and steel making by March with the loss of 6,400 jobs.

New charge against seven

An additional charge of aiding and abetting terrorism, and withholding information about acts of terrorism, has been laid against four men and three women who appeared on remand at Lambeth Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday on charges relating to alleged terrorism. The seven, who were arrested in police raids before Christmas, are further remanded in custody until next Thursday. The four men were: Robert Storey, aged 23, of Riversdale Park South, Belfast; and Richard Glenholmes, aged 45, John Campbell, aged 37, and Gerald Tuite, aged 27, all of Holland Park, London. They were accused of conspiring to cause explosions, possessing firearms and ammunition, having no firearms licences, and withholding information about acts of terrorism.

All three women were accused of withholding information. Margaret Farrar, aged 33, of Woodland Way, Whetstone, and Jacqueline O'Malley, aged 30, of Wilshire Street, Northing Hill, both London, are further charged with conspiring to cause an explosion. The third woman remanded was Christine Keenan, aged 43, of Barnsley Road, Belfast.

The name of the prisoner whose arrest and alleged involvement have been aided was not given in court.

Woman freed by Turks wants to return for trial

Mrs Abide Mehmet flew home to London yesterday after spending more than four months in an Istanbul jail and promised to return to face trial for allegedly insulting the Turkish nation.

Mrs Mehmet, aged 41, of West Green Road, north London, arrived at Heathrow airport after British consulate officials negotiated her release from the notorious Samsalimar prison. She was arrested for swearing at an airport official in a dispute over an aircraft seat.

She was freed after her family raised £470 bail, but has to face trial in March in Istanbul, where she could be sentenced to six years in prison.

At Heathrow Mrs Mehmet said she would return to face trial. "I shall be pleased to go back to the trial. I have nothing to hide," she said.

"I have been treated very well over the past months. They were all right to me once the incident at the airport was over."

Motor cyclist to pay £1,000 in compensation

From Our Correspondent
Ludlow

A motor cyclist who was said to have driven his new machine at 40 mph through the plate-glass doors of an hotel after being ejected from a dance was ordered to pay £1,000 in compensation by magistrates at Ludlow, Salop, yesterday.

Christopher William Shingler, aged 27, of Whitton, near Ludlow, admitted causing criminal damage of £1,158, assault causing bodily harm, and driving with excess alcohol in the blood.

Mr Charles Sainier, for the defence, said: "Ninety-nine per cent of the time he is an ordinary, intelligent, hard-working individual, but on rare occasions he loses control of himself."

Mr Shingler was fined £75 on the criminal damage charge, placed on probation for three years for assault, and disqualified for driving for 18 months for driving with excess alcohol.

Shotton strikers step up their picket

From R. W. Shakespeare
Shotton

Picketing is being stepped up at the Shotton steelworks, on Deeside, Durham, and from this morning the strikers will be trying to persuade all employees, including management, not to enter the plant.

The confusion could become worse today as the pickets ask to see passes that have been issued to selected workers who are allowed into the plant to

carry out safety and health maintenance. Shop stewards representing the craft workers have said it must be a matter of "individual conscience" whether workers without passes cross the picket lines.

Feelings are running high among the Shotton strikers, who were already angered by the British Steel Corporation's decision to stop iron and steel making by March with the loss of 6,400 jobs.

At Shotton, Teesside and Scunthorpe BSC works no new experience of a furnace of that size and therefore could not be absolutely sure what might happen to it.

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HOME NEWS

Mr Powell attacks Foreign Office as 'that nest of vipers'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

In a trenchant attack on the Government's policy for Northern Ireland, which he said was more disastrous than the actions of the Heath government in 1972 and 1973, Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, yesterday said the source of continuous hostility to Unionism for years had been "that nest of vipers, that nursery of traitors, which is known as the British Foreign Office".

Addressing the local Orange Lodge at Dundonald, Co Down, Mr Powell said: "To the Foreign Office the fact that five-sixths of the inhabitants of this province are, and intend to remain, integral citizens of the United Kingdom, is less than nothing."

"Its thoughts are not of us. Its eyes and its affections are fixed outside the realm, on Dublin, on Brussels, on the Vatican, and above all on Washington, DC, for whose favour and delectation this province is to be offered up as a sacrifice if the arts of skulduggery will avail to do the trick."

Mr Powell said that the public had been reading a lot about the American CIA recently. "One needs to be an innocent to be unaware, after all that has happened, that so far as Ulster is concerned the CIA, with its clout and its crudities, has nothing to teach the Foreign Office."

"What bribes, what threats, what agents provocateurs, what corruption, what undercover agencies can achieve, for that in Ulster you may put your bottom dollar on the Foreign Office."

In what will be seen as a last-minute defence of the Official Unionist's refusal to take part in the forthcoming constitutional conference proposed by Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Secretary

of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Powell ran through the course of events since October and contrasted the Government's open stance now with Mrs Thatcher's declared aims at the general election. She had asserted that her great object for Northern Ireland would be to maintain the union.

In saying that the union was now in greater danger than at any time since 1973, Mr Powell assured his audience that he did not have in mind the Provisional IRA. Appalling though their deeds had been, they had done nothing to shake the union. On balance, over the past 10 years, they had strengthened it. The danger was from the Government of the United Kingdom.

That was the unambiguous significance of the political initiative announced on October 24, which was to have its first instalment at Stormont next week. The only possible consequence, and therefore the intended consequence, of that action, was to work towards the destruction of the union.

Mr Powell gave what he called "proof positive" of that. The Government had said that it wished to introduce changes for governing Ulster: well and good. It went on, however, to say that it wanted maximum political agreement among the parties to those changes.

Whose agreement? Mr Powell asked. "Not Unionist agreement, of whatever brand. If the changes are to be such as will evidently strengthen the union, Unionist agreement was there for the asking. Indeed, without even the need to ask. No, the agreement which the Government seeks, and which it has set up a conference in order to show the world that it seeks, is the agreement of the SDLP. That was the indispensable ingredient. All others could, at a pinch, be done without."

Stormont's return urged by Official Unionists

From Our Correspondent
Belfast

The Official Unionist Party, which has chosen not to attend the constitutional conference on the political future of Northern Ireland, due to open in Belfast on Monday, has submitted proposals to the Prime Minister which it believes would form a basis for the restoration of devolved government in the province.

The plan provides for the return of a single-chamber parliament at Stormont, with a range of powers in line with those assigned to Northern Ireland by the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, and controlled by a Cabinet.

Safeguards and remedies against discrimination on religious or political grounds would be maintained as in other parts of the United Kingdom.

The proposals follow closely the convention report of four years ago, which has been rejected by the Government and by the Labour Party. The prospects of its being accepted as a working model by the coming convention are remote.

If anything, it would seem that the Official Unionist Party is taking a firmer line against power sharing than it did four years ago, when the proposal was a working model by the members of the committee would be drawn half from the government side and half from the Opposition, and that the Opposition would have at least half of the chairmanships.

It is now proposed that both committee members and chairmen should reflect the respective strengths of the parties in the House.

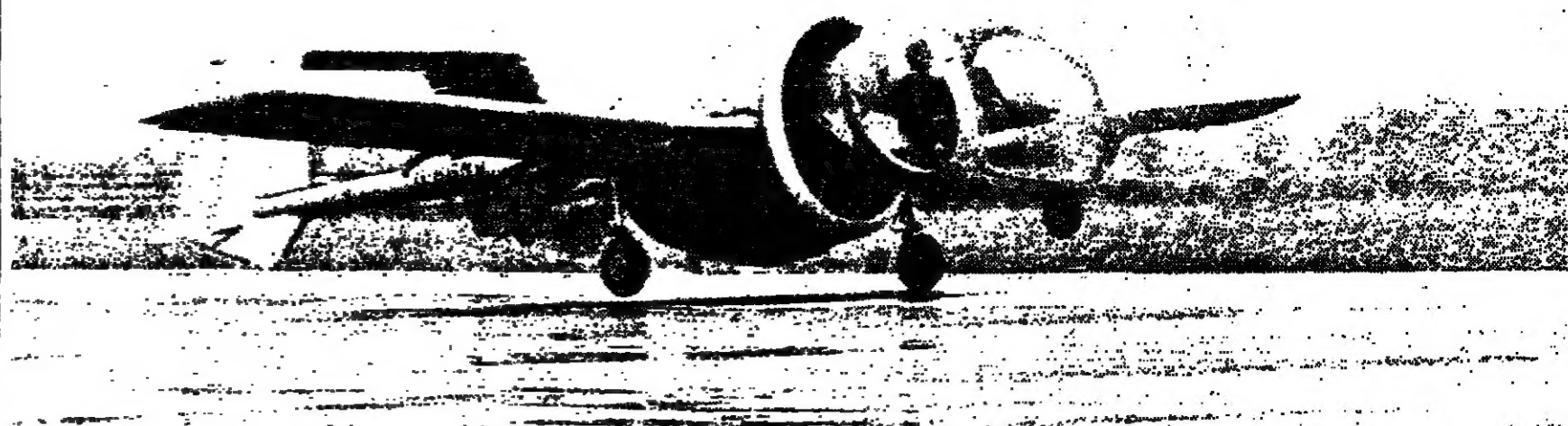
The party proposes that the United Kingdom Government should be responsible for the defence and security of the land frontier, air corridors and coasts.

The power to raise revenue by taxation would remain at Westminster but the proceeds of taxation raised in Northern Ireland would be paid into the Northern Ireland Exchequer.

The memorandum says that the present system of local government is "undemocratic, uneconomic, insensitive, inefficient and bureaucratic".

It declares: "As citizens of the United Kingdom the people of Northern Ireland are fully entitled to have a local government system equally as democratic as that which exists in Great Britain."

Outlining the proposals in Belfast, Mr James Moynihan, leader of the party, said that some "loyalist" politicians had been brainwashed and were falling into the snares which had been set for them.



The insect-like Optica observation aircraft taking off into the 1980s at the Cranfield Institute of Technology yesterday. Nicknamed Bug-eye, it has been built, designed and financed by Mr John Edgley

Fears of more Welsh 'second home' arson

From John Chatter
Lancaster

More second homes in Wales may be destroyed by people who resent outsiders coming in, the annual conference of the Institute of British Geographers was told at Lancaster University yesterday.

Mr Haydn Williams, deputy director for Wales of the Nature Conservancy Council, delivering a paper on conservation in the national parks of Wales, said: "A number of second homes in Wales have recently been destroyed by fire. There will be more."

The incidents, although regrettable, were a reflection of the attitudes of people in rural areas against outside interference, he said.

In reconciling the different viewpoints of conservationists and those who live and work in areas such as national parks, it was essential to involve the latter, possibly paying farmers and others extra money for the trouble involved.

A healthy and self-sufficient resident rural population was essential. The difficulties of the hill areas throughout Britain were well known. In Wales much of the attraction of the national parks lay in the distinct Welsh culture, most apparent in Snowdonia, the western area of the Brecon Beacons and the Preseli hills in Dyfed.

The needs of active management in the parks are great, but the labour force available is limited by number and by finance. Perhaps we can learn from the under-populated countries, such as Iceland.

There, apart from their normal jobs in the remoter areas, other tasks such as road maintenance, telephone line checking and repair and rescue services are carried out, often for payment, by the sparse resident population.

Byron and the Nottingham Observer. The trial will continue today. The defendants are Guy Alexander Wayne, aged 71, managing director of the magazines, of Colson Bassett Hall, near Nottingham; Arthur Cyril Dewey, aged 54, chartered accountant, of Victoria Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham; Michael James Campbell, aged 44, deputy managing director, of The Park, Nottingham; and Leonard Albert Sutton, aged 57, printing foreman, of Park Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire. All four have pleaded not guilty.

Retrial shock as document sticks to exhibit

A retrial was ordered in a case at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday because of static electricity.

Mr Brian Appleby, QC, for the prosecution, said that a document the jury should not have seen became firmly stuck to a copy of the *Tatler* magazine which was handed to the jury as an exhibit.

The hitch came on the second day of the trial of four businessmen who are accused of conspiracy to defraud advertisers by falsely inflating circulation figures of two magazines, the *Tatler* and

The state of the professions—3: Impact of trade unions

By Ian Bradley

There is nothing new in the trade unionization of the professions. The National Union of Teachers was set up 100 years ago this year. In 1915 Arnold Bennett commented about doctors and lawyers that "their two great unions are among the most vicious opponents of social progress in Britain today".

In the past 10 years there has been an increasing move among the professions to join large trade unions affiliated to the TUC. Mr Clive Jenkins says that his Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs recruits 10,000 professional workers every year. They are mostly scientists, although he says there are also 6,000 doctors in the association.

Members of the United Kingdom Association of Professional Engineers have just voted in a ballot to join the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union. Most of the architects, accountants, lawyers and social workers employed in local government have joined the National and Local Government Officers Association.

There have been two main reasons for the unionization of the professions. The labour legislation of the mid-1970s discriminated against non-unionized employees and made it advantageous for professional workers to join trade unions. At the same time, many in the professions were worried about their declining pay and status and felt that they were losing out to highly organized and unionized groups of workers.

There is considerable debate within the professions about

Crisis of ethics in call to strike

how far joining a trade union

conflicts with maintaining professional ethics. Many doctors are unhappy about a recent article in the *British Medical Journal* which urged them to seek help from non-professional unions in the health service to organize demonstrations against cuts.

There is also disquiet about the following statement which appears in the latest handbook of medical ethics issued by the British Medical Association: "Those who maintain that it is always unethical for a professional man to withdraw his services, which in the view of many is the only effective weapon available to him when persuasion fails, are in danger of accepting for doctors a position of subservience to their employers that would eventually preclude them from maintaining their professional standards."

Some argue that it is positively a good thing for members of the professions to join unions. The Rev Neil Richardson, vicar of St Hugh's Church, Oldham, Greater Manchester, and a leading member of the group of 80 clergymen in ASTMS, believes that the professions should not be exempt from what is an important fact of life for most other working people.

Opinions differ as to whether professional associations should turn themselves into trade unions, as the BMA has done. Dr Maurice Gillibrand, a chemist and executive secretary of the Association of Management and Professional Staffs, a small union which represents scientists working in

industry, feels that they should not.

He says: "The charters of professional institutions require them to look after the standards of the profession and take regard for the public interest, not to negotiate between the members and their employers. Unions have quite a different role, to represent their members' interests. They do not include the public interest in their terms of reference."

There is also considerable debate as to whether the professions should have their own unions or join the large conglomerate unions affiliated to the TUC. Dr Gillibrand strongly advocates the former approach.

The British Association of Social Workers takes a similar view. It has recently set up a British Union of Social Workers, because, in the words of Mr Christopher Andrews, its secretary: "We were worried that Naigo was not sufficiently interested in professional standards and practice."

Mr Clive Jenkins, however, believes that the interests of professional workers are better served by joining a large conglomerate union like his own rather than forming their own specialized professional union.

He describes the BMA as "ineffective" and says that the idea of the 40-hour week contract for junior hospital doctors originated in ASTMS. He also says that he would always respect the wishes of professional groups such as speech therapists and radiographers not to come out on strike and that ASTMS would never force them to withdraw their services.

Tomorrow: A Common Voice

RUC reservist murdered in front of boy

A reserve policeman was murdered yesterday in the village of Newtownbunder, on the Co Fermanagh border, in front of a boy aged 12.

Mr Robert Crilly, aged 60, was shot while working on a car in the garage he owned. The boy was helping him. Police said a red estate car drove slowly down the main street and pulled into the garage forecourt. Two men got out and fired several bullets into their victim.

Mr Haughey axes planned £4m official home

Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, has scrapped a £4m project to establish a new Prime Minister's home in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

A Government spokesman said yesterday that the project had been called off because of the economic situation. The architects, Evans and Shalev, of London, will not lose the £6,000 prize their design won last year in a competition for the building.

Twenty two programmes for the New Year from London Weekend Television.

<p>AGATHA CHRISTIE'S WHY DIDN'T THEY ASK EVANS? The picture shows Francesca Annis and Sir John Gielgud.</p>	<p>ISLAM looks at a religion that could change the world.</p>	<p>PIG IN THE MIDDLE, a new comedy series starring Dinsdale Landen, Lisa Goddard and Joanna Van Gyseghem.</p>	<p>ENEMY AT THE DOOR, a second series about life in the Channel Islands during the German occupation.</p>	<p>WEEKEND WORLD, LWT's current affairs programme, presented by Brian Walden on Sunday at Noon.</p>	<p>PRIME MINISTER talks to Brian Walden on Weekend World - 12 noon, this Sunday.</p>
<p>BRIAN MOORE MEETS NIKI LAUDA, a portrait of one of Grand Prix Racing's greatest Champions.</p>	<p>SKIN, a series of programmes about immigrant communities in the London area.</p>	<p>SEARCH FOR A STAR, television's newest talent show, searching for the television stars of the future, hosted by Steve Jones.</p>	<p>WORLD OF SPORT, produced by LWT every Saturday for the ITV network and introduced by Dickie Davies.</p>	<p>CREDO, LWT's current affairs programme on religious and moral issues.</p>	<p>BRUCE'S GAME, a new quiz show hosted by Bruce Forsyth.</p>
<p>THE SOUTH BANK SHOW, LWT's weekly programme about the arts, edited and presented by Melvyn Bragg.</p>	<p>THE BIG MATCH, London's Sunday afternoon soccer, with number one soccer commentator Brian Moore.</p>	<p>AGONY, a second series of the off beat comedy about an agony columnist trying to solve her own as well as other people's problems.</p>	<p>SATURDAY NIGHT PEOPLE, an irreverent look at people and institutions with Russell Harty, Clive James and Janet Street-Porter.</p>	<p>DOCTORS AND NURSES, an original comedy series featuring a hospital staffed by children, treating grown-up patients.</p>	<p>LOOK HERE, a monthly look at broadcasting itself, presented by John Pardo, in which London viewers can air their views.</p>
<p>POLICE FIVE, produced in association with New Scotland Yard and introduced by Shaw Taylor.</p>	<p>PFA AWARDS: the soccer stars choose their own players of the year in this annual event.</p>	<p>THE FAITH BROWN CHAT SHOW: the star from Who Do You Do? impersonates a host of stars in her own series.</p>	<p>GAY LIFE, a series exploring issues which affect the homosexual community in the London area.</p>	<p>THE LONDON PROGRAMME, the current affairs programme for the London area, introduced by Godfrey Hodgson.</p>	<p>LWT London Weekend Television</p>

Programmes made by London Weekend Television, the ITV station for the London area on-air every weekend from 7pm Friday until closedown on Sunday.

HOME NEWS

The 1949 Cabinet papers—3

How Amethyst broke out of the Yangtse

By Peter Hennessy

The most heroic story in the newly released Whitehall files for 1949 is the daring escape of the frigate HMS Amethyst down the Yangtse river after being trapped for three months by communist troops advancing in the final stages of the Chinese civil war.

The Admiralty files contain vivid eye-witness accounts of the incident on April 20, 1949, when Amethyst was fired upon and forced aground. The high policy of the episode is also revealed in Foreign Office telegrams reflecting secret diplomatic efforts to free her. The matter reached the Cabinet on April 26 and June 23.

Ironically, an extract from the Chiefs of Staff Committee, whose minutes are not yet available at the Public Record Office, Kew, was slipped inside the Admiralty file ADM 1/21500. It shows there was defeatism in high places about the chance of the ship making a dash for freedom. The minute for April 22 records:

Sir John Edsel (Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff) told the committee of the latest developments in the incident in the Yangtse river. He said that thanks to a brilliant effort on the part of a Sunderland flying boat, a doctor with some medical supplies had now reached HMS Amethyst. The ship was now anchored a few miles up river from where the incident had happened. The problem of what to do with the ship however remained to be solved. The hostile batteries were spread out along some 12 miles of the northern bank between her and the open sea. . . . Although HMS Amethyst was capable of 17 knots, and although the remaining 40 of her crew now left on board could steam the ship, it was not of the question for her to run the gauntlet.

The initial assault on Amethyst had led to 17 men being killed, including the commanding officer, Commander John Kerans, assistant naval attaché at the Nanking Embassy, for which Amethyst was carrying supplies on a regular replenishment run, took his place.

Negotiations to free the ship dragged on fruitlessly. Conditions on board deteriorated. Food was running out and fuel

was so scarce that the fans could not be used to mitigate the stifling summer heat. Rats and mosquitoes infested the ship.

Commander Kerans decided to try to break out to the open sea 140 miles away before his fuel ran out. Amethyst's code books had been destroyed when the communists first opened fire for fear of them falling into their hands. Messages had to be sent in clear. How, then, could Commander Kerans seek permission to carry out his plan?

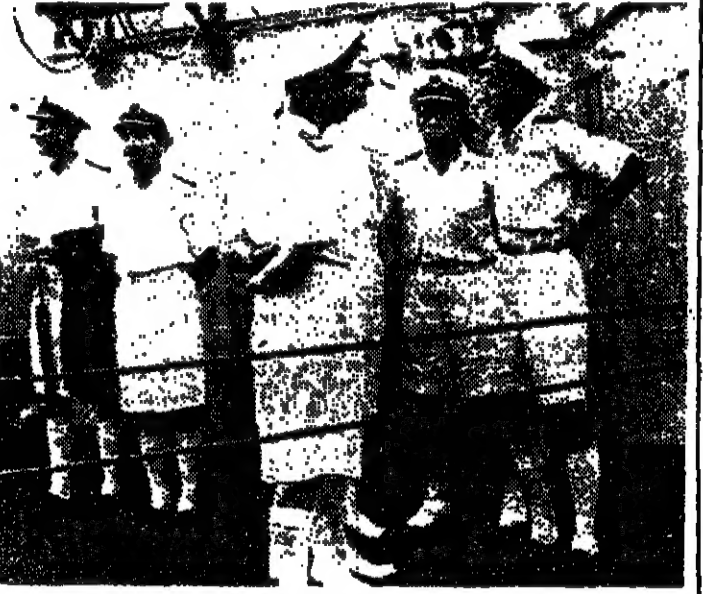
On July 7, he signalled Admiral Sir Patrick Brind, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Station, asking what he should do in the event of a typhoon. Sir Patrick concluded he must be planning a breakout. He realised that "the golden rule of making an effort and taking plenty of seamanship applies".

Commander Kerans now felt free to go ahead. The night of July 30 was chosen, as the moon would set shortly before midnight. The Yangtse was brimming with meltwater flowing down from the Himalayas and Amethyst could proceed at a greater speed with a good chance of clearing the constantly shifting sandbars. A summary of Admiralty signals makes it clear that their Lordships in London had no idea of the plan until the last moment. Lord Fraser of North Cape, First Sea Lord, informed Sir Patrick that "breakout should not be attempted without reference to the Admiralty". He replied: "Too late to stop Amethyst now."

After coming under heavy fire and clearing a boom at Kiangyin, 50 miles downstream, Amethyst reached the sea and sent the famous signal: "Have rejoined the fleet. No damages or casualties. God save the King."

George VI replied with a telegram to the crew preserved in the newly released file. "Heavy congratulations on their daring exploit to rejoin the fleet. Splice the mainbrace, George R."

Tomorrow: The day the Admiralty saved the Royal Marines and the Wrens.



Commander Kerans (right) at Hongkong, telling Admiral Sir Patrick Brind (third from right) about the escape.

Big transfer of freight to railways 'a pipedream'

By Michael Bailey

Some of the "solutions" being put to the Armistice inquiry into heavy lorries and the environment are superficial and illusory and would have a disastrous effect on the economy, industrial transport users said yesterday.

The so-called solution of large-scale transfer of freight from road to rail was simply a pipedream, and admitted to be so by British Rail. Mr Malcolm Banks, president of the Freight Transport Association and head of transport for the Littlewoods Organisation, said in London.

Apart from bulk traffic like coal and steel, much of which was already moved by rail, routes had to be more than 100 miles and in some cases 200 to make rail worthwhile. In fact, only a per cent of Britain's freight was moved more

than 125 miles, and 54 per cent less than 31 miles. On the taxation of lorries, Mr Banks said that half as much again was paid as the road cost they incurred, contrary to the views of amenity bodies. That represented an excess of tax paid over road expenditure of £230m. For all road users the figure was more than £2,000m.

Bans on lorry movements in towns and elsewhere were also suspect, Mr Banks said. Already 2,000 schemes a year were being proposed. Those in existence added £42m a year to transport costs and caused the consumption of an extra 8,500,000 gallons of fuel.

One measure the industry would welcome to reduce lorry nuisance would be to make lorry licences conditional on suitable parking and operating areas, Mr Banks said.

Coroner urges arsonist to give himself up

An arsonist who started a fire that caused the death of three children was urged yesterday to give himself up to the police.

The appeal was made by Mr Philip Gill, the Wakefield Coroner, at the opening of an inquest on the three brothers who died after the fire at their home in Selby Street, Hull.

Police believe the fire was started when blazing paraffin-soaked material was pushed through the letterbox four weeks ago.

"It seems to me this was a deliberate act and one which may well have got out of control and had more far-reaching effects than was originally intended," Mr Gill said.

"I hope that whoever was responsible and started this fire, if they have a spark of humanity in them, will do what they can to relieve the relatives of these boys of further distress and enable the police to bring their inquiry to a conclusion."

"The right and proper step to take is to come forward."

The inquest on Charles Hastie, aged 15, Joseph Peter Hastie, aged eight, and Paul Hastie, aged 12, who died in the burns unit at Pinderfield Hospital, Wakefield, was adjourned for three months.

Deportation of teacher is deferred

Mr Raphael Altman, the South African who was told he must leave Britain by January 11 after living here for nine years, will be able to stay, at least temporarily.

The Home Office said yesterday that Mr Altman, of Great Milton, Oxfordshire, was refused an extension of his stay because the Department of Employment had not received a proper application for a work permit from his prospective employer.

Mr Altman, a religious education teacher in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, is married with two children.

Sutton Hoe

Professor Philip Rafter argues in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today that the famous East Anglian site of Sutton Hoe should be re-examined using the most modern archaeological techniques. Also Rosemarie Jones reassesses Albert Camus who died 20 years ago today, and David Gardner, president of the University of Utah, looks at the troubled state of Britain's universities.

WEST EUROPE



Inhabitants of Terceira inspect the damage caused to their homes by the Azores earthquake.

New earth tremors hit Azores

Angra do Heroismo, Jan 3.—Light tremors shook two islands in the Azores today, causing panic among survivors of the New Year's Day earthquake which killed at least 33 people and made thousands homeless.

Inhabitants of Terceira and São Jorge, the two islands worst hit by the earthquake, were jolted out of their sleep early today by the tremors. But a Portuguese military spokesman said there had been no reports of fresh damage or casualties.

The Portuguese National Geographic Institute, said in Lisbon that the five tremors today were repercussions of Tuesday's earthquake, but added that there was no reason to fear another big upheaval.

The authorities in Lisbon said 33 people had been killed and nine injured in the earthquake. But United States Air Force officers at the Lajes base in Terceira put the death toll at 52, with at least 400 islanders injured. Local hospitals said they had lost count of the number of injured.

According to the local authorities, about 15,000 people have been made homeless by the worst earthquake to hit the Azores in 20 years.

Rescue workers are still searching through the rubble of Angra, most of whose houses were destroyed by the earthquake. Some of the villages destroyed on Tuesday can only be reached by sea and the authorities fear that the casualty toll may go up once rescue teams have managed to get through to the more remote areas.

Azores radio today said one of the newly-discovered casualties was the 43-year-old parish priest of the Terceira village of Santa Barbara who was buried in the ruins of his church as

he was ringing the tocsin to alert the villagers.

United States officials in Lisbon said American servicemen stationed at the Lajes air base were helping the Portuguese to clear roads and rubble and were sending medical supplies to the main hospital in Angra.

In the ruins of Angra, many of whose ancient monuments were destroyed, thousands were sheltering in Red Cross tents, barracks, schools and modern earthquake-proof buildings.

Portuguese Navy ships and Air Force helicopters are evacuating villagers from some of the least accessible coastal areas on the island of São Jorge, where more than half of the population of 7,000 has been left homeless.

The Azores, a string of nine islands halfway between Europe and North America, have frequently suffered earthquakes. In February, 1964, a series of seismic disturbances, which only ended in April, 1965, led to the evacuation of part of the population of São Jorge.—Reuter.

Barre prospects improve after Giscard praise

From Ian Murray

Paris, Jan 3

President Giscard d'Estaing was receiving New Year wishes at the Elysée Palace all day today. The first to call were the members of the Government led by M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, who has been under a cloud since Christmas over his method of introducing the budget for 1980 which was ruled out of order by the Constitutional Council.

The budget debate resumes on Monday, with the Government already almost certain to use the article 49 bis of the constitution to force the budget through. This enables the Government to pass a Bill without a vote. The question, therefore, is not so much whether the budget will be passed but whether Mr Barre will remain for long to implement it.

To judge by his friendly reception at the Elysée today Mr Barre can expect to survive, at least for the moment. The President pointed out that there was no election due in the year, so that 1980 would be propitious for carrying out the work already undertaken.

He went out of his way to congratulate M. Barre. Thanks to his work, he said, France

was stronger than it was in 1974. M. Barre said in his reply that the franc was stable, the purchasing power of the French people was being maintained despite the oil crisis, and industrial peace was general. The gloomy international situation, he said, was further proof that France could count only on itself.

M. Barre then went to the National Assembly to explain to the Finance Commission the measures announced yesterday to deal with the rise in energy prices.

The full cost of the new price rises for petrol, electricity and gas was revealed during the morning. Super grade petrol is to rise from 3.08 francs to 3.27 francs (36p) a litre, electricity charges by 10.8 per cent and gas by 11.8 per cent.

The Government measures include 7,500 francs worth of special credits for industrial investments over the next year to soften the impact of these rises. The Government is also to grant 150 francs extra to families on low incomes, to old people, and to help them to face the effects of the price rises. These will cost the state an estimated 1,500 francs.

Portugal's new, centre-right Cabinet sworn in

From Our Correspondent

Lisbon, Jan 3

President Eanes swore in Portugal's new centre-right Government at a ceremony in Lisbon's Ajuda Palace today.

Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Prime Minister, said in a speech after the investiture of the centre-right alliance headed by his party, the Social Democratic Party, solved the unelectable choice of the Portuguese people. His Government was, after Portugal's long political crisis, the first to command an absolute majority in Parliament, he said.

The new Government's task was to transform social conditions and solve the many problems facing the country through "moderate and positive action". The public would be kept informed, Dr Carneiro said. He also promised that the country's problems would be solved "on a national and not a party basis".

Nothing the danger posed by the Soviet Union, he said, that his Government wanted Portugal to join the European Community.

New controversy arises over minister's suicide

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Jan 3

A new round of spiteful claim and counter-claim has sprung up around the reasons for the mysterious suicide in October of M. Robert Boulin, the French Labour Minister.

His death followed a series of public disclosures that he might have been involved in a shady land deal to acquire the property near St Tropez in 1974 on which he built a luxurious holiday home. In a statement yesterday to Agence France Presse the former owner of the land, M. Henri Tournet, claimed that he had in fact given the land to the minister.

M. Tournet is the central figure in the involved story of the land deal. He is said to have been involved in selling the land twice—once to a wealthy Normandy consortium and then for a ridiculously low price of 40,000 francs (£4,400) to M. Boulin.

A judicial inquiry into the affair was started in July by the powerful young examining magistrate, Jean Guen, M. Renaud van Ruybeke.

In a bitter series of letters written before he took his life,

M. Boulin strongly criticized both M. van Ruybeke and M. Guen, the Minister of Justice, for the way they were persecuting him over a perfectly honest deal.

M. Tournet, a former close friend of the minister, has so far refused to talk in any detail about the land deal. Yesterday, however, prompted by a persistent press investigation, he decided to claim that he had in fact returned the 40,000 francs paid to him by the minister.

According to a report in this week's edition of *Le Point*, the amount was paid into M. Boulin's private account in his home town of Libourne in cash the day after M. Tournet's cheque for this amount had been cashed at a Paris bank.

Details of the minister's bank accounts were requisitioned by M. van Ruybeke shortly before M. Boulin's death, and it is expected that they will be made public in due course.

M. Boulin's widow has issued a statement saying that her husband was not the sort of man to receive presents and that M. Tournet was not the sort of man to give them.

Gloomy Italian minister rebuked

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Jan 3

It never looked much like being a happy new year but most Italians, including a hard-pressed Prime Minister, might have hoped that a member of the Government would at least see the first week out before declaring that the country's parlous condition was practically beyond hope of redemption.

The offending minister is Professor Massimo Giannini, who deals with administrative reform. His despondent inter-

view, published by a Milan weekly, brought an angry statement last night from President Pertini, who complained that the minister's statements were out of line with his own confident message for the new year.

He called on Professor Giannini to retract or resign. The minister claims that what he said was handled in such a way as to sound worse than he meant.

Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, has called for the tapes of the interview.

The professor was reported as saying that his despondency was shared by all his fellow-ministers. The facts of the economic situation, he said, left them flabbergasted.

The interview was mainly concerned with Parliament and the rest of the country's institutions which, Professor Giannini said, no longer functioned.

He said the economic problems of 1980 would be dreadful. At least at the beginning, 1980 will be the worst year in our history.

OVERSEAS

Carter rivals anxious to end political truce over Iran crisis

From David Cross

Washington, Jan 2

The unofficial truce among both Democratic and Republican contenders for the presidency to mute their attacks on Mr Carter's handling of the Iranian crisis seems to be breaking down as election year finally dawns.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the toughest criticism has come from the Republican side, with Mr William Brock, the party's national chairman, accusing the President this week of employing a "policy of deception" to use national unity on the American hostages in Iran to divert public attention from weaknesses in the Administration's foreign policies.

"It's time to take the gloves off," he told a reporter when he issued a new year statement on the coming political battle. He also urged Republican presidential candidates no longer to feel obliged to keep silent on anything except the specific question of Mr Carter's attempts to secure the release of the 50 hostages from the Tehran embassy.

The Republican candidates themselves are also beginning to air their frustrations at Mr Carter's domination of the political scene since the Iran crisis began two months ago.

Mr John Connally, the former Treasury Secretary and Governor of Texas, has recently accused the President of a "policy of inaction", while Senator Robert Dole of Kansas has said that Mr Carter bears a "heavy responsibility" for the Iranian problem.

On the Democratic side, too, Senator Edward Kennedy and Mr Jerry Brown, the Governor of California, are growing increasingly restless at the self-imposed truce. Mr Brown and Mr Kennedy claimed that the President was using the plight of the hostages to help his own reelection campaign, and one of Mr Kennedy's assistants has made much the same point by attacking Mr Carter for indulging in "calculated politics".

The incident which has most irked the contenders for his throne was Mr Carter's decision to withdraw from next Monday's planned televised debate in which he was to face the first round contest for presidential nomination.

tions is due to take place later in the month.

The Democratic debate, which would have included all three of the party's candidates, has been cancelled, while television and the press as a whole have largely lost interest in the Republican match, which Mr Ronald Reagan, the front-runner, had, in any case, always intended to boycott.

Reports from the White House that the President has still managed to keep up with some of his campaign chores in spite of the crisis in Iran have also been a factor in encouraging his rivals to speak out.

Mr Carter and some of his aides have been making regular telephone calls round the country to win support for his reelection campaign.

Although Mr Carter has justified his decision to refrain from overt political campaigning on such high-minded principles as the need for a non-partisan presidency at a time of foreign crisis, his conduct is fully in line with one of the golden rules of presidential politics: if you are ahead in the polls, stay aloof and let your rivals fight it out among themselves. He said last night, for instance, that he thought it was unwise during the Iran crisis would be damaged if he left the White House to get involved in political campaigning.

Mr Reagan has adopted the same strategy heretofore, although he has been probably not as good as Mr Carter's.

Certainly, this strategy has paid off handsomely in recent weeks as the President has seen his popularity in the public opinion polls rise to spectacular levels.

The latest survey conducted in the middle of last month among Democratic voters shows that Mr Carter has a commanding 53 per cent lead over Mr Kennedy's 38 per cent, while Mr Brown trails at 9 per cent.

But with the truce on silence now apparently over and growing impatience among the public about his inability to secure the release of the hostages, Mr Carter may now begin to see the upward trend in the polls reverse its direction.

Dr Waldheim listens to Iranians' grievances

From Our Correspondent

Berlin, Jan 3

Some 3,500 people today attended the funeral in West Berlin of Rudi Dutschke, the former left-wing student leader who died in Denmark on Christmas Eve.

Professor Helmut Gollwitzer spoke of Dutschke's passionate fight for peace on each side of his devotion to socialism, and said he had been a radical but never a fanatic.

Though some of the songs during the funeral service recalled militant times, a touch of nostalgia seemed to hang over the crowd. They were mainly former comrades of Dutschke and students of the present generation, some with babies in their prams or small children on their shoulders.

The gathering at the Free University, that followed the funeral, was a peaceful demonstration in protest against the murder of Dutschke took place in April, 1968. The head injury he sustained at the time led to his death 11 years later.

Today thrust their grievances upon Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, who dodged demonstrators at a Tehran cemetery and heard 500 angry invalids blame the United States for their sufferings.

Declaring himself deeply moved and shocked, Dr Waldheim told the invalids, casualties in the struggle which deposed the Shah: "I will do my best to give you satisfaction."

He also faced an uncompromising attitude from Government officials over the fate of 49 Americans held hostage by Islamic militants for the extradition of the deposed Shah for 25 years.

The hostility of many Iranians to the Waldheim mission was underlined at a demonstration in front of the United States embassy.

A resolution read to a crowd of 5,000 said: "We ask Kurt Waldheim why he did not go to Panama instead of Iran. If you are taking steps to end the crisis, you won't do this by protecting the interests of the superpowers. Only the extradition of the Shah will end your problem."

Dr Waldheim met the 500 invalids at a former army officers' club and stood grimaced for 10 minutes while they chanted slogans denouncing the Shah as a killer and demanding his extradition. They waved crutches and artificial limbs in the air, shouting: "Down with Carter. Down with the Shah."

Dr Waldheim told them: "I come from a small country which suffers tremendously. I have seen my compatriots bring on the ground, dead... my country occupied by the great powers. I will do my best to give you satisfaction."

Earlier, Dr Waldheim was flown to the Behesht-e Zahra cemetery in Tehran, where some 3,000 people killed in the revolution were buried. Cemetery officials said that he drove to the grave of the Tehran spiritual leader, Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleghani.

Meanwhile, a leading contender for the Iranian presidency said in an interview that the 49 Americans held at the United States embassy in Tehran are not hostages but detainees charged with offences against international law.—Reuter.

Deposed Bolivian President to seek reelection

From Our Correspondent

La Paz, Jan 3

General Guevara Arze, a former President overthrown by a military coup last year after less than three months in office, is to stand for the post in this year's elections, according to political sources.

General Guevara Arze, aged 63, was elected by Parliament last August as a compromise candidate after neither of Bolivia's two main party leaders was able to gain an absolute majority in seven ballots.

On November 1, the military seized power but President Guevara Arze went into hiding with his cabinet and refused to step down.

On November 16, the military agreed to return power to Parliament on condition that the President was replaced.

Parliament revoked his authority and his successor, Señora Lidia Gueiler, Bolivia's first woman President, Señora Guevara Arze became President of the Parliament.

A senior official of the Authentic Revolutionary Party, which Señora Guevara Arze leads, said the former President's candidacy in the elections was agreed by the party during the past few days.—Reuter.

Monkeys kill boy of nine

From Our Correspondent

Jakarta, Jan 3

Hundreds of monkeys bit and scratched a boy of nine to death in a Borneo animal preserve after he and three other boys refused to give up their lunch box, Antara news agency said today.

His companions escaped unhurt from the attack when a passing farmer diverted the monkeys with a bunch of bananas.—Reuter.

Three shot dead in Indian poll clash

From Kuldip Nayyar

Delhi, Jan 3

Violence during the polling in 244 constituencies in the Indian general election today led to the death of three Harijans, formerly known as Untouchables. The deaths occurred in the village of Akbarpur, Patna, in Bihar, where the Jats, who are Harijans as part of their caste.

According to reports reaching here, the Jats shot dead three Harijans and injured another 25, one of them seriously. The Harijans had resisted voting for a Jat candidate of the Lok Dal party.

A police party left for Shikharpur and nearby villages in western Uttar Pradesh to check into complaints that Harijans were being prevented physically by the Lok Dal from voting. Mr Charan Singh, Prime Minister in the caretaker government, heads the Lok Dal party.

In his own constituency, Bagpat, more than 20 people were injured, one seriously, when Harijans were attacked to keep them away from the polling booths. A worker for Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party was seriously injured in an attack in Alipha village, near Bagpat.

A journalist who toured the constituency heard allegations of bogus voting. Some Harijans claimed that they were deprived of their ballot papers after being issued with them. At Kanjaula, near Delhi, Harijans had to vote in the presence of their landlords who entered many polling booths.

In Shiwan, Haryana, where Mr Bansi Lal, a Jat and a close associate of Mrs Gandhi's son, Mr Sanjay Gandhi, is opposed by the Lok Dal and the Janata Party, a clash started when some voters snatched the ballot papers from the polling officers.

In Hyderabad one person was shot dead after a Hindu-Muslim clash. There were many clashes there last night and the police used tear gas against rioters.

Apart from these reported incidents, polling has been peaceful. But the turnout has been below 50 per cent compared with more than 55 per cent in the previous six elections. Voters' cynicism against politicians in general for an unnecessary mid-term election coupled with bad weather in the northern states is blamed for the meagre turnout.

The 244 constituencies which went to the polls in the first round of the election are spread over 18 states and all the nine union territories. The second round will be held on Sunday.

The main contenders are the Janata Party which won the 1977 election and the Congress Party of Mrs Gandhi, the former Prime Minister. The Lok Dal and the other faction of the Congress Party have an electoral alliance but are not hot favourites.

While Mr Morarji Desai, the former Prime Minister, was one of the early voters in Bular (Gujarat), Mrs Gandhi could not reach Delhi to vote as the Indian Airlines flight by which she was to travel from Calcutta was cancelled. Mr Charan Singh, who was campaigning outside Delhi, did not vote either.

Vietnamese plan space flight

From Our Correspondent

Moscow, Jan 3

A Vietnamese cosmonaut may soon be shot into space from a Soviet base, Tass reported today.

A Vietnamese cosmonaut candidate from Vietnam was being trained in the Stars City near Moscow. The report said the Vietnamese were bearing the Russian winter perfectly well.—Agence France-Presse.

Thais stop 'encouraging' entry of Kampucheans

From Our Correspondent

Bangkok, Jan 3

The Thai Government has abandoned its ambitious project launched in November, of temporarily accepting 500,000 Kampuchean refugees in centres set up in Thailand.

Thailand is keeping its "open door" policy of accepting all refugees arriving in the country but instead of putting pressure on the 600,000 to 700,000 Kampucheans camped along the border to enter Thailand, the Thai authorities will now accept only those who have freely decided to cross.

They are also trying to arrange for border regions sheltering the refugees to be put under United Nations control and demilitarized.

AFGHANISTAN

Carter move to defer Senate debate on Salt pact with Russia

From David Cross Washington, Jan 3

President Carter today asked the Senate to delay its consideration of the strategic arms limitations treaty (Salt 2) because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

A statement issued by the White House said that "while the President continues to believe that ratification of Salt 2 is in the national security interest of the United States, he has concluded that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in defiance of the United Nations Charter has made consideration of the Salt 2 treaty inappropriate at this time."

The President asked that the delay should continue while the Congress assesses Soviet actions and intentions and devotes their attention to legislative and other measures required to respond to the crisis created by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan," the statement added.

In a letter to Senator Robert S. Dole, the Democratic leader of the Upper House, Mr. Carter emphasized that his request for a delay was "not to withdraw the treaty from consideration, but to defer the debate which was originally due to have opened in the near future."

"As you know," the President said, "I continue to share your view that the Salt 2 treaty is in the national security interest of the United States and the world, and that it should be taken up by the Senate as soon as these more urgent issues have been addressed."

Outlining the reasons behind Mr. Carter's decision, the White House official said that the mood of the Senate was clearly in favour of a postponement of the Salt debate. It was impossible to predict when Senate deliberations on the treaty might resume and the President would be determined by the future behaviour of the Soviet Union, the official added.

Paris politicians score points over Kabul coup

From Ian Murray Paris, Jan 3

The Soviet-assisted coup in Afghanistan has shown up acutely France's schizophrenic position in its relations with the Soviet Union and the United States.

The result is that despite the recognized gravity of events in central Asia, the impression is that the takeover in Kabul has been organized simply to provide politicians with more bricks to fling at each other.

There can be no doubt that President Giscard d'Estaing is extremely concerned at what he sees as the danger to world peace of what has happened.

Equally he still clings to the belief that détente has to be multilateral and that France has a role to play in bringing about a gradual cooling down of tensions. He is therefore anxious not to upset the Soviet Union.

The French Foreign Ministry was at pains to point out that the joint statement issued after the New Year's Eve meeting in London of representatives of the six western powers—the United States, Britain, France, Canada, West Germany and Italy—was couched in stronger terms than France would have liked.

The language of the statement, the Foreign Ministry said, was that of the American delegation and not of the others present whose positions were significantly more prudent. All had agreed to the statement out of courtesy.

Thus while Britain and West Germany have declared their individual anger at the Soviet intervention, France has so far simply recalled its ambassador in Kabul in order to obtain his first-hand report of what has been going on.

The main French domestic interest in what has happened has, therefore, been the reaction of the Socialists and Communists to yesterday's invitation by the President to be briefed on Afghanistan by M. Jean François-Poncet, the Foreign Minister.

This offer, made in keeping

pressed desire to keep politics out of important issues, seems to have been taken in exactly the opposite way.

Mr. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, responded by instructing his own number two, M. Lionel Jospin, to make the contact, holding himself ready to meet the President for a personal briefing in the event of matters becoming really serious.

In his letter of reply to the President, M. Mitterrand played down the importance of the offer by saying that the Socialist party would always be available to responsible public figures on interests vital to the country.

This half snub to the President is in some ways more of a calculated insult than the almost inevitable refusal to accept the invitation which will come from the Communist leader, M. Georges Marchais, when he returns from his present trip to Cuba.

The Gaullists, too, have taken their increasingly accustomed swipe at the President. They ask in a statement whether he has made use of the occasion to stage a political operation.

The Gaullists, like the pro-Giscardian UDF, however, both roundly condemn the Soviet moves in their statement. The Socialists, too, are strongly opposed to it, adding that they were similarly opposed to American invasions of South-East Asia and Latin America and French intervention in Africa.

The Communists, however, have found themselves seeking to justify the Kremlin's action. After playing down the story for some days in the party newspaper *L'Humanité*, a full page appeared today complete with a strong editorial supporting the Soviet intervention.

It recalls Article 7 of the United Nations Charter, which enshrines the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of a country and Article 51 which supports the natural right of self-defence with the help of allies.

The editorial evokes the spirit of General de Gaulle, reminding readers of his initiatives in favour of national independence and détente.

Tass, which itself reported virtually nothing of the opposition to the Amin regime while the former President was being quoted in the Soviet press as praising the Russians for their support, said Washington and the other Western capitals were more than once told of these crimes. But the media and politicians remained tight-lipped, "thus taking brutal murderers under their protection".

Mr. Carter was accused of speaking suddenly in favour of a man he had described as "red", but Washington began grieving over President Amin only when he was exposed as a usurper.

Tass said the American intelligence services must have known that President Amin had intended to annihilate a whole tribe—the Hazararas—by using napalm which he was trying to obtain from Western countries.

(The Soviet media have not detailed the scale of Soviet military support for President Amin while he was in power.)

Fortunately, Tass said, President Amin did not have time for this, or to execute all the opponents he had imprisoned.

The article said the "heart-rending lamentations" heard in Washington resembled those

Army needs fire power to protect 1,000-mile border

Islamabad seeks guarantees of assured US arms deliveries

From Richard Wigg Islamabad, Jan 3

With the Russians having turned the region's historic buffer state of Afghanistan into a Soviet satellite, Pakistan has to option but to negotiate with the Americans the purchase of high quality modern defence equipment.

The principle of obtaining these arms from the United States must be settled quickly, for there is a grim realization here that if the negotiations between Washington and Islamabad take up much time, there may be no need for it.

Such is the assessment of the situation by the authorities here that the Pakistanis have taken up much time, there may be no need for it.

But informed sources here believe Pakistan will be taking a momentous decision and much diplomatic skill will be required, both from Islamabad and Washington, if the decision is not to do Pakistan more harm than good.

The superpowers may one day be interested in the region, but Pakistan, with a population of over 80 millions, will remain in the area bordered not only by the Soviet Union but also by Iran and India.

Viewed from Islamabad, India has apparently still not grasped the magnitude of the change in the situation which, perhaps, can only be mastered by a rapprochement between the two nations of the sub-continent.

There has evidently been some hard thinking here about the Soviet Union. Basically, the Russians have been told that, as long as their troops remain in Afghanistan, there can be no political solution between the two countries.

But the Pakistanis are also aware of the importance of Soviet economic assistance, symbolized by the Soviet-built steel mills near Karachi.

The Russian aggression in the region has produced a very complex situation for the regime of President Zia ul-

Haq. It has left the American-backed Canto alliance in the wake of the collapse of the Shah's regime in Iran and, in order to get more in step with the Islamic world, joined last autumn the non-aligned movement in Havana.

Pakistan will now have to explain to Iran that, faced by the first Soviet invasion of a Muslim country, it must choose the means to defend its sovereignty or be subverted by the Soviet Union.

"Pakistan must accept the offer of military aid from the United States despite its wholehearted identity with Iran," an editorial entitled "The Moment of Truth" in the Government-owned *Pakistan Times* has declared in an obvious effort to prepare public opinion.

The Russians, in the prevailing view here, have taken full advantage of the Americans' continuing entanglement with the Iranians to strike in Afghanistan.

The Pakistanis seem determined to maintain their place in the non-aligned movement, and are likely to point out to critics of the intended arms purchase that other members too have bilateral arms agreements with the superpowers.

Such an argument is evidently destined for Indian ears. With that country's substantial dependence on Soviet arms and defence assistance.

Talks have begun with the Americans on arms purchases, but the Pakistan Government has indicated that it requires clarification on what will be done to guarantee a completely reliable supply of arms and somehow circumvent the Symington Amendment, which stopped aid and arms last April, so that Congress will be brought into line with any executive decision.

The delivery of \$50m worth of arms, already on order when the United States ban was imposed last April because of steel mills near Karachi, to acquire a nuclear capability, is clearly regarded here as only a beginning. Such a small arms delivery would only engender

Soviet animosity, it is bluntly stated here.

Pakistan is therefore likely to look once again to its Muslim friends, especially Saudi Arabia, to play the bankers' role in much larger arms purchases.

Anyone coming as I have done to Islamabad from Delhi is bound to be struck by the immense gap separating the two countries' thinking on how best to respond to the Soviet threat to the region.

With the Indians having taken a decision to acquire Anglo-French Jaguars, Harriers, and a regiment of Soviet T72 tanks, the outcry over the intended Pakistani arms purchase in India among politicians and the press looks strange indeed.

The Pakistan Army needs above all at this juncture sophisticated equipment, such as the Indians are acquiring, but military supplies to give them fire power and mobility along the 1,000-mile-long mountainous frontier with Afghanistan.

Facing up to 30,000 Soviet troops equipped with modern tanks and helicopters, Pakistan has one corps of 25,000 men based on Peshawar in the North-West Frontier province and a corps of some 30,000 troops in Baluchistan facing Iran.

There are also about 60,000 lightly equipped militia men forming such famous frontier corps units as the Khyber Rifles. They are deficient in transport and communications.

President Zia has to face this crisis relying on officials' advice and that of his fellow generals, since all the political parties have been banned after the October decision to postpone indefinitely the promised general elections.

The weakness of the military regime is obvious, for all the senior commanders are also functioning as martial law administrators in their areas and as provincial governors. The reason, Zia has given, is to watch the frontiers with Afghanistan and Iran and concentrate full time on military affairs may force General Zia to introduce changes.

Britain and Pakistan press for UN action

From Michael Leapman New York, Jan 3

Britain and Pakistan are making the running here in getting the United Nations Security Council to meet to condemn the Soviet action in Afghanistan. The session is likely to be held at the weekend when the Soviet Union will certainly veto any resolution, even though it will mention the Russians by name but refer to them as "foreign troops."

At a meeting in London on Monday between the United States and its five main European allies, the Americans asked Britain to play a leading role in the diplomacy leading to United Nations consideration of the question, Pakistan is involved as a Muslim country bordering on Afghanistan.

The plan to summon the Security Council was devised at a meeting last yesterday at the office of Sir Anthony Parsons, Britain's representative at the United Nations in which 11 countries participated.

The Council President, M. Jacques Leprieux of France, will summon other members for consultations before the meeting is announced. After a Soviet veto, it would be open to any member to put the resolution to the General Assembly, under the "uniting for peace" procedure. If it were then passed by a two-thirds majority—and it is conceivable that it could be—it would have the same authority as a Security Council resolution.

Leading article, page 11

EEC food aid suspended

Brussels, Jan 3. The European Economic Community today decided to suspend food aid to Afghanistan, sources close to the EEC Commission said here.

The aid programme for 3,000 tons of cereals and 300 tons of powdered milk with a total value of \$1.2m (£590,000)—was making their broadcast appeals.

In the broadcasts Patriotic Front guerrillas were told that all those who went to assembly areas would be lawful. "But if you do not join your comrades by midnight on January 4 you will be acting contrary to the ceasefire agreement and will be unlawful."

"Therefore it is in your interests that you follow today the instructions you have received from your commanders."

OVERSEAS

Guerrillas urged to heed Rhodesia truce

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Jan 3

In a final attempt to persuade more Patriotic Front guerrillas to heed the ceasefire call, Lord Soames, the Governor, and two leading Patriotic Front military commanders have been broadcasting appeals to fighters still in the field to report to assembly areas by tomorrow's midnight deadline.

By this afternoon the total numbers of armed guerrillas who had reported to the ceasefire monitoring force amounted to just over 5,050, although a British spokesman said the figure could well be higher by nightfall.

The remaining guerrillas could number in excess of 12,000. After the 14-day period for implementing the ceasefire any guerrilla who is not at an assembly area will be deemed to be "unlawful" and will be dealt with as the Governor deems fit.

A British spokesman said the question of late arrivals would be handled "sensitively", which is taken to mean that guerrillas will still be accepted at assembly areas after tomorrow's deadline.

British sources today expressed disappointment that more guerrillas had not yet heeded the truce call. It was still hoped there would be a last-minute rush tomorrow.

That was why Lord Soames and the two guerrilla commanders—Mr. Rex Nkhomo, deputy commander of Zanu (the force belonging to Mr. Robert Mugabe's Zanu), and Mr. Dumiso Dabengwa, military and security intelligence chief of Zimra (the military wing of Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zapu)—were making their broadcast appeals.

In the broadcasts Patriotic Front guerrillas were told that all those who went to assembly areas would be lawful. "But if you do not join your comrades by midnight on January 4 you will be acting contrary to the ceasefire agreement and will be unlawful."

"Therefore it is in your interests that you follow today the instructions you have received from your commanders."

You must join other Patriotic Front forces in assembly places by January 4. The soldiers of the monitoring force are here to help you in every way they can."

The British sources emphasized that there could be no extension of the ceasefire deadline. In an angry meeting with Mr. Enos Nkala, the senior Zanu representative inside Southern Rhodesia, Sir Anthony Duff, the Deputy Governor, today rejected his demand for the ceasefire implementation period to be extended.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the leader of the rival United African National Council, said today, that the failure of the guerrillas to take part in the ceasefire in greater numbers showed that their leaders, Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Nkomo, had no control over them. He also accused the Patriotic Front leaders of working to disrupt the elections in February.

British sources have nevertheless been heartened by the reduction in the level of violence. The average daily death toll has fallen to about five since December 21 compared with about 20 before the ceasefire came into effect.

There have been far fewer ambushes, attacks on the white farms and land mine incidents, although there has been an increase in general lawlessness in some areas.

A number of particularly brutal incidents continue to be reported, in one, according to a Rhodesian combined operations communiqué, a band of eight Zimra fighters demanded food and drink from villagers living near Plumtree, south of Bulawayo, four of them subsequently became ill and two of them died.

In revenge they ordered the villagers to build a large fire into which they pushed a man and two women, who were burnt to death.

Mr. Nkomo was to have returned on Sunday but the British pointed out to him that his welcoming back rally would have clashed with a big political meeting which Bishop Muzorewa was planning to hold the same day.

IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER.

REVELATIONS.

We're not going to try to predict next week's exclusives.

After all, we didn't know about jury vetting, or sex tests on immigrants, or the 41 railway lines British Rail want to close, until a few hours before we went to press.

But if current form is anything to go by—the cabinet discussion on P.W.R. Nuclear Power Stations, the cabinet argument over employers footing the sick pay bill, the B.R. plan for two fare rises for rail travellers—then the exclusives will be there.

ILLUMINATIONS.

Naturally all our major features will be there, shedding just a little more light on things you knew and on topics you're just becoming aware of.

Everything from *Honest Bottle*, the *Arts*, *Education*, *Society Tomorrow* and *Agenda*,

to *Grassroots*, *Small Business*, *In the Gallery*, *Futures*, *Parliament* and *Out of Court*.

Plus, of course, *Posy*, *Bryan McAllister* and *Gibbard*, the cartoons that slice up life.

REPUTATIONS.

You've heard of our writers because they're those kind of writers. But just to remind you, Jill Tweedie, Polly Toynbee, Barry Norman, Derek Malcolm, Frank Keating, Carwyn James, Peter Jenkins, John Arlott, James Cameron, Nancy Banks-Smith, Michael Billington, Hamish McRae and Katie Stewart will all be there, refreshing the parts other seers cannot reach.

TRADITIONS.

Wit. Style. Irreverence. They've all been part of The Guardian for 150 years. Next week will be no exception.

THE GUARDIAN

West accused of 'frenzied ballyhoo'

Continued from page 1

"If the United States and Britain had heeded these calls, an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity would have prevailed long ago, and the Government of the young republic would not have had to call for military aid."

The naming of Britain with America as the prime culprits reflects Soviet anger at the strong British condemnation of the Soviet intervention. Mrs Thatcher sent a letter to Mr Brezhnev and said she was "frankly puzzled" by the Soviet action.

The Russians have long identified Britain as the West European power they most dislike, but this is the first time Mrs Thatcher's Government has been accused specifically of aiding and training the Afghan rebels.

The article accused the West of deliberately suppressing news of the crimes of President Amin. The Western media did not utter a word condemning the "fascist bandits" who, Tass said, were their frenzied burnt villages, massacred whole families, gouged out the eyes and cut off the hands of Government activists.

Tass, which itself reported virtually nothing of the opposition to the Amin regime while the former President was being quoted in the Soviet press as praising the Russians for their support, said Washington and the other Western capitals were more than once told of these crimes. But the media and politicians remained tight-lipped, "thus taking brutal murderers under their protection".

Mr Carter was accused of speaking suddenly in favour of a man he had described as "red", but Washington began grieving over President Amin only when he was exposed as a usurper.

Tass said the American intelligence services must have known that President Amin had intended to annihilate a whole tribe—the Hazararas—by using napalm which he was trying to obtain from Western countries.

(The Soviet media have not detailed the scale of Soviet military support for President Amin while he was in power.)

Fortunately, Tass said, President Amin did not have time for this, or to execute all the opponents he had imprisoned.

The article said the "heart-rending lamentations" heard in Washington resembled those

when another butcher, the Shah of Iran, was overthrown.

It asked why Nato was making such a "frenzied propaganda ballyhoo" over a country that had nothing to do either with the north or with the Atlantic.

The reason, Tass explained, was that this was a manoeuvre to distract the world's attention from the "foul schemes and deeds" of the West.

By starting an outcry over the Soviet threat to Iran, Washington was trying to camouflage its own real threat looming over Iran and its attempts to play the role of a world policeman. Nato wanted to divert Western attention from its plans to deploy nuclear weapons in West Europe.

The party newspaper *Pravda* today described the fighting in Kabul near the radio station. Giving the first account of a battle on Monday, the paper said a squad of attackers tried to get through to the radio station but were fought off and dispersed.

The newspaper said shooting broke out several times in one area of the city and the firing of heavy-calibre machine guns was heard.

OVERSEAS

Gaza Arabs call on Egypt to return Palestine Bank funds

From Christopher Walker, Gaza, Jan 3

A group of prominent Arab businessmen are mounting a joint campaign against the Egyptian and Israeli Governments to force the reopening of the Palestine Bank, an important privately owned institution closed down 13 years ago when the Israeli Army captured the Gaza Strip.

A strongly worded telegram was sent last week to President Sadat of Egypt, requesting him to order the immediate unfreezing and transfer of the bank's cash holdings valued at about £500,000. These have been forcibly withheld by the National Bank of Egypt and the Bank of Cairo where they were on deposit at the time of the enforced closure in June, 1967.

"We see this as a vital test of the Egyptian Government's real attitude towards the Palestinian people," one of the bank's governors, Dr. Hameed Abu Ghazaleh, said. "If they really believe that we should be allowed to look after our own affairs, they should give us back our money. Without it, the Israeli occupiers have the perfect excuse for keeping the bank shut, and preventing us from building up the economic infrastructure of Gaza."

In the present mood in Gaza of deep suspicion towards the camp David agreements, no one is prepared to admit publicly that the latest move to reopen the bank is connected with the improved diplomatic climate between Israel and Egypt. But political observers regard it as more than a coincidence that the telegram came at a time when the two countries are due to be restored.

Of strong symbolic, as well as commercial significance, the Palestine Bank was one of the big financial institutions to have its headquarters inside the poverty-stricken Gaza Strip at the time of the 1967 war. Many of the 450,000 Palestinians living in the region regarded it as something akin to a national bank.

Today, the bank's grubby headquarters in Gaza's bustling main thoroughfare is locked and barred, with the keys held by the Bank of Israel. Inside, the original furniture and fittings remain dusty and unchanged while a skeleton staff

Leftist terror group kills El Al manager

El Al manager

Istanbul, Jan 3.—Mr. Abraham Elazar, manager of the Israeli airline El Al, was shot dead last night, the police said today.

Mr. Elazar was on his way home from his office in Yesilkoy airport when a group of men opened fire on his car with Soviet-made automatic rifles. He died on his way to hospital.

An extreme left-wing group, the Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Union, later claimed responsibility in a telephone call to a newspaper. It said Mr. Elazar was an agent of the Israeli intelligence service and accused Israel of massacring the Palestinian people.

The same terrorist group claimed responsibility for the murder of an American serviceman and three American civilians near Istanbul last month. Four other people were killed in Istanbul yesterday and two in other Turkish cities.—Reuters.

Flying drunkard

Recife, Brazil, Jan 3.—Airport police arrested a drunken man of 24 who was sitting at the controls of a Boeing 737 airliner and trying to start the engines.

Vietnam defoliant blamed for deformed babies

From Douglas Aitken, Melbourne, Jan 3

One in four of Australian ex-servicemen exposed in the Vietnam war to the defoliant Agent Orange have fathered deformed children, according to the first statistical study carried out on the subject.

The national average of one seriously deformed baby in every 1,000 is 250 times lower than the veterans' rate.

The study was carried out last week on 50 men who suffer from a variety of complaints which they believe were caused by contact with Agent Orange in Vietnam between 1965 and 1970.

The families of the veterans, all living in New South Wales, contain four children with deformed hands including three cases in which all the fingers are missing, two with deformed legs, including one on a baby girl which had to be amputated, one missing ear, four cases of club feet and two of deafness.

The men are members of an association formed to press their claims for compensation against the Department of Veterans Affairs. The figures were collected by Mr. Jim Wares whose son was born with a deformed hand.

Mr. Wares said the majority of the men, including himself, had not yet filed claims because they had not connected their troubles with exposure to Agent Orange. Recent publicity brought it to their attention.

Of the men who reported deformed babies, 11 suffer themselves from extreme nervousness and 10 from a body rash

Egyptian leader will call on Mr Carter

on Mr Carter

Cairo, Jan 3.—Vice-President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt left today on a 19-day tour of the United States which will take him to Washington for an expected meeting with President Carter.

Mr. Mubarak, who met President Sadat of Egypt in Aswan yesterday, first headed for the Gulf oil state of Oman to talk with Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

The Cairo newspaper *Al-Ahram* quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying that the talks would centre on the situation in the Gulf, mutual security and turning oil in the Middle East, Oman is one of three Arab states which have supported President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel.

Mr. Mubarak will then travel on to North Korea, Japan and the United States before returning home by way of Munich. He is accompanied by senior military officials and Dr. Osama El Baz, Egypt's First Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

United States officials have said they are considering a request for a five-year military aid that Egyptian newspapers said would total about \$3,000m (about £1,500m).—AP.

FOREIGN REPORT

The generals want a combined attack on terrorism in Turkey

Turkey's influential generals tried to obtain by dictate this week what years of patient goading by friends of Turkey had failed to achieve: to get the country's two principal political parties to sacrifice partisan interests for the sake of joint action to rid the country of terrorism.

For the time being, the generals are not power-hungry. They just want the politicians to break the cycle of vendettas and revenge that swells the surging wave of political violence between extreme right and extreme left and is rapidly leading the nation to civil war.

The two extremes are in the minority. But because for years the two major parties, the Republican People's Party of Mr. Ecevit and the Justice Party of Mr. Demirel, have been unable to secure a parliamentary majority, the extremes have exploited this weakness.

Their violence has claimed an average of 25 lives a week in the last year. When the Conservative government of Mr. Suleiman Demirel took over last November it was clear that unless it could deal even-handedly with both extremes, the terrorism would continue.

Mr. Demirel's dilemma, however, is that his minority government relies on parliamentarianism. But a longer-term strategy of military survival on the "National Action Party" of former Colonel Alpaslan Turkes, which is openly against the opposition of fostering rightwing terrorism.

The left-of-centre government of Mr. Demirel's predecessor, Mr. Ecevit, had, in turn, been accused of cracking down on the extreme right in the hope of encouraging some form of cooperation, support or tolerance from Mr. Ecevit's party.

The message from the army was loud and clear: "Joint action in the spirit of nationalism and Atatürkism, within the context of a parliamentary democratic regime."

Mr. Demirel's current strategy against political violence is to set up an efficient team of administrators in each of Turkey's 67 provinces. "A good prefect, a good police chief, and a good public prosecutor," he says, "can do wonders."

Within his first two weeks in office he replaced all the prefects, and the police chiefs in 57 provinces.

His next move was to abolish the "Martial Law Coordinating Council" set up by Mr. Ecevit who was intent on giving martial law in Turkey what he called a "human face" that would be more compatible with his own principles. But the political constraints visibly impaired the effectiveness of the martial law authorities.

Mr. Demirel has now given a free hand to the military in the 19 provinces where martial law is in force and the difference of opinion between the army and the government has already been sharply expressed in the form of stamping out leftwing lawlessness.

The Demirel Government is now pressing legislation through the National Assembly setting up state security courts to expedite, by summary procedure, a multitude of cases involving political crimes. Ordinary tribunals in Turkey, even courts martial, often find themselves bogged down by legalistic obstacles and permission is given, attend any form of public gathering, meaning a meeting of more than two people, may not have anything published or be quoted, or make part in any political activity. The orders are usually imposed for five years at a time.

Frequently, they are accompanied by house arrest restrictions which means that banned people are confined to their homes from 6 pm to 6 am daily, and on public holidays. During these times they may only receive visits from a doctor, priest or a lawyer. All people under banning and house arrest restrictions must report regularly to the police.

It is difficult to keep an accurate tally of the number of people at present banned. Notices announcing new banning orders and the expiry of others appear regularly in the *Government Gazette*, but frequently people released from bans after serving sentences for political crimes, or after being detained without trial, walk straight into a banning order.

The Institute of Race Relations does its best to keep the record up to date and has calculated that 151 people were under banning orders as of September, 1979. They include clerics, politicians, trade unionists, social workers, stu-

dents, lecturers, writers and journalists, both black and white.

The reasons for banning are usually not made public, nor is there any provision for appeal. In 1980 a judicial commission will examine all of South Africa's massive arsenal of security legislation and one of the country's leading law professors, Dr. J. D. van der Vyver, has urged that it should give serious attention to the purpose behind banning.

"In the long run," he says, "a government cannot solve a large scale interior security problem by repressing the resistance of its subjects to institutional injustices."

He has suggested that administrative controls which the United States applies through its Subversive Activities Act might work better than the present system which forces subversive organizations underground.

Mr. Peter Brown, secretary of the now defunct Liberal Party, who was banned for 10 years from 1964, sees the situation in a different light. Banning orders, he feels, "have been a waste of active public involvement a host of people who, given a chance in the past 25 years, might have made a decisive contribution to the cause of peaceful change."

Recently eight NGK leaders have called for the restrictions on Mr. Naudé to be lifted "on humanitarian grounds".

The reaction among other church leaders led to a demand that the banning orders be lifted. In 1980 a judicial commission will examine all of South Africa's massive arsenal of security legislation and one of the country's leading law professors, Dr. J. D. van der Vyver, has urged that it should give serious attention to the purpose behind banning.

Now, for the first time, the Turkish authorities are turning their attention to the country's rapidly changing social structure, which involves influential gangs with international ramifications. Turkey is currently negotiating agreements with neighbouring countries on the prevention of smuggling across the borders and has tightened surveillance along the extensive coastlines.

Another aggravating factor is the urge the Turks feel to possess a firearm. "Machismo" is at the root of this urge, of course, but it also makes for a flagging sense of security in the countryside.

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time-consuming procedures which create an impossible backlog of cases.

The law is part and parcel of a series of law-and-order decrees held up in the National Assembly by Mr. Ecevit's objections, obstruction heartily resented by the army.

The roughest task facing this government, however, is the urgent need to depoliticize the police force which has been deeply infiltrated by rightwing and left wing trade unions. Turkey's two major parties agree that this should be done as soon as possible but, obviously, they disagree on the definition of "depoliticization".

Many Turks therefore, say it is time to set up a police special branch, with its own first-class intelligence network to deal exclusively with terrorism, possibly with the help of Scotland Yard which Mr. Ecevit brought in to advise the Turkish police.

Mr. Ecevit, the opposition leader believes that political violence is inextricably linked with the country's rapidly changing social structure and its faulty economic growth. The use of non-democratic methods could have speeded up economic development, as it did in most backward countries, but in Turkey, he says, it would have backfired.

The Turks are profoundly egalitarian. They have known no aristocracy and no slavery. Until the early 1930's we did not even have surnames. These were introduced just for bureaucratic reasons," he said.

Therefore, no Turk can regard poverty as his unavoidable destiny when he can see others getting rich. And Turkey's economy did not encourage the development of an egalitarian society in recent years."

This sense of frustration and injustice, combined with the neglect of rural areas where three-fifths of Turkey's population live, and a prodigious birth rate of 3.7 per cent, have led to monstrous urbanization.

The overpopulated cities are girdled with slummy shanty towns where the extremists on both sides can easily recruit desperadoes in a country where one in five is unemployed.

Another aggravating factor is the urge the Turks feel to possess a firearm. "Machismo" is at the root of this urge, of course, but it also makes for a flagging sense of security in the countryside.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

Shows starting at 8.00 p.m. unless otherwise stated. Tickets at the door unless otherwise stated.

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Food Report

British food laws may be weakened by new EEC rules which must be imposed here this year.

The Food Standards Committee, an obscure quango of scientists and others whose worthy suggestions are often ignored by governments.

The committee was at the heart of the bargaining which produced the labelling of Food Regulations of 1970. Its members are understandably aggrieved that the strength of the regulations is threatened by the introduction in Britain of a new EEC directive. Its title is "approximation of the laws of member states relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer."

Attempts by the committee to bring sanity to the labelling laws have often failed. Five years ago it offered the simple and sensible idea that the term "natural yogurt" should be banned as a description on labels of yogurt sold without added fruit. It made the obvious point that plain yogurt was no more "natural" than any other variety, but its suggestion was ignored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

It pointed out that no ingredients had to be declared on the labels of sweets, cakes, biscuits and alcoholic drinks. Its report contained radical plans for tightening food labelling laws. The ministry has said nothing about them since, except that action must await the imposition here of the EEC directive.

The committee based its demand for the listing of ingredients of all processed food and drink on the growth of supermarkets and of interest among consumers in what they eat.

"We have for some time believed that it is no longer a defensible argument to propose to a consumer that to discover the ingredients of, for example, bread or ice cream she should visit the public library or buy the appropriate regulation from the Stationery Office."

It was a sensible idea which the ministry has persistently sidestepped by appealing to the coming EEC directive. That was agreed by Community ministers at the end of 1978 after years of haggling in Brussels.

The final version, which must be brought into the law of all EEC countries this year, has not met with the approval of the Food Standards Committee. It considers that the clauses in the directive about the way in which labels are

EEC levellers weaken British labelling

The ministry shows little enthusiasm for publicizing the work of the committee. The two most important reports issued by the committee in recent years have been distributed by the ministry at Christmas, when they could almost be guaranteed not to win publicity.

The first has just been published as an appendix to the second, almost as if the members of the committee were clutching at the sleeves of the food standards officials at the ministry in the hope of being noticed at last.

Food labels are seen by almost everyone, but seldom read. The laws behind them are a minefield of obscure and complicated exemptions and anomalies. The committee drew attention to them in a long and surprisingly caustic report two years ago.

It could see a list of ingredients being shown on a tin of soup, but not on a tin of curry powder. It suggested then that all of the loopholes which allowed food companies to sell groceries without listing ingredients on the labels should be closed.

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The final version, which must be brought

THE ARTS

The archetypal Japanese family in camera

"The Family in Japanese Cinema"
National Film Theatre

The Films of
Francesco Pasinetti
Riverside Studios

Satan's Brew
Electric Cinema Club

The National Film Theatre's series "The Family in Japanese Cinema" is innovative in its attempt to examine a nation's whole social psychology through its films. Of course the Japanese, ordering things as they tend to do, invite this sort of thing: it is at the best of times hard to avoid magazine articles and Radio Three talks about the bases of Japanese society and how they are able to reconcile keeping up the tea ceremony with making all those cars and tape recorders.

Hiroko Govaers, a Paris-based Japanese who has devised the programme, quotes a recent song hit in Japan, in which a prospective bridegroom exhorts his fiancée: "Always go to bed after me and get up before me. Cook well and be neat... and if I have a little affair, just put up with it." Even the pop-oriented young, it seems, respect some aspects at least of the traditional family structure.

A social structure based on a patriarchal family unit is perhaps the inevitable heritage of feudalism: perhaps it is endemic to all monarchical systems. Nowhere, however, has the pattern been more dominant than in Japan. Sociologists point out that it goes far beyond the actual genealogical family. Industrial organisations, geisha houses, criminal organisations are equally based on a patriarchal structure, and on principles of familial solidarity and duty.

The tensions within the traditional social order have provided a rich and popular theme for Japanese film-makers practically from the beginning: one of the most familiar melodrama plots has been that of the errand boy or son seeking some form of emancipation outside the unit but, ultimately, coming back to the fold. Even those films which have been most critical of the family system—such as Yuzo Kawaishi's *The Elegant Beast*, which describes a perfectly evil family—actually

prove, by their vehemence, its power.

In the same way it is essentially a confirmation of the patriarchy that, of all the family, it is most commonly the father who becomes the butt of comedy or criticism. After all, there is no point in cooking snooks except at figures of real respect and power. The father who loses his dignity by falling into the very excesses he forbids his sons—getting drunk or keeping mistresses—has been a regular figure of fun. In Yasujiro Ozu's comedy *I Was Born But...* (later remade as *Good Morning?*) the tragicomic lies in the children's loss of respect for the father whom they come to see as a bootlicking employee.

The mother, by contrast, is always revered. Mothers suffer, and sacrifice, and are loyal to their husbands and give up all for their children's happiness. So revered, indeed, was the mother character in the past that the Japanese developed a special genre of film, the *haha-mono* or "mother-movie". The *haha-mono* was generally also in the class of the *on-naidai chodai* ciga, or tear-please films. Perhaps the finest of all mother films is the single work by Ozu included in the NFT season, *The Only Son*. In this an old mother through her goodness and love overcomes her disappointment at her son's errand boy married and unemployed in the depressed Tokyo of the 1930s.

In the post-war era the erosion of the rigid old structures, and the Japanese woman's search for a more positive role, produced a new genre, the *tsuma-mono*, or "wife-movie". The wife now

sought an identity other than that of her husband or her surrogate mother to her husband, in work or a career.

Daughters in the run-of-the-mill Japanese film have usually come in pairs: there is the good, "traditional" girl, dedicated to her home and never seen out of her kimono; and the "modern" girl, with her western clothes, western music and American slang. The conflict reflects an essential schizophrenia in Japanese society at large. The demoments most often reflect the conservatism of film makers: generally it is the old-fashioned girl who gets the guy, and so shows modern sister the folly of her ways.

The conflict in the character of the son is somewhat different, though again it is one which has informed Japanese literature for generations. "If the father is the shivered pillar of the Japanese family," wrote the historian Donald Richie, "most two decades ago, then the son is the slender sapling upon which the entire edifice will eventually lean." His youthfulness may lead him into errors, but eventually the overriding sense of duty, added to the dutiful suffering and sacrifice of mother and sisters, will bring him back to the home and a recognition of his role.

Such a bald summary of traditional roles can be misleading; but it does fairly reflect the attitudes of a large number of popular films over many years and so, presumably, a preferred Japanese self-image. Often, too, the winsomeness in her acting, Christy, has been the most accurately record the sentiments of a society and a time. A great artist like Ozu

or Mizoguchi, grasping and revealing essential human truths, will transcend the shallower and more immediate concerns of his time and society. Common minds are often more equipped to deal with common concerns.

The special interest of the films in the current NFT season then is that they are not, this time, all great works by the great masters. There are, true, films by Ozu, Heinosuke Gosha, Keisuke Kinoshita and Kon Ichikawa; but there is also a chance to discover the work of once-prominent and prolific directors like Yasujiro Shimazu, Yutaka Abe and Mikio Naruse, who have until now been no more than names in the history books.

Francesco Pasinetti is another name hardly known in this country, but a Shelley-like legend in the history of Italian cinema. Though he was only 38 when he died in 1949, he was already, as a teacher, and, in the last year of his life, director of the Centro Sperimentale in Rome, the undisputed maestro for a generation which included Fellini, Antonioni, Pierangelo, Maselli and the actress Alida Valli.

He was born in Venice in 1911; the city dominated his best work, whether his single feature film, *Il Canale degli Angeli*, made when he was 23, or the remarkable series of Venetian documentaries and photographs. He began to work as a film critic when he was a 19-year-old student of art history at Padua; and his *Storia del Cinema* (1939) still retains the status of a classic text. He wrote and designed for the theatre; and between 1941 and his death made more than fifty

documentaries and scientific shorts.

The Riverside Studios, in association with the Galleria del Cavallino, Venice, are this month presenting a tribute to the varied achievements of Pasinetti. An exhibition of still photographs taken during the making of *Venezia Minore* offers a rich visual record of wartime Venice. On January 26 there will be a screening of films by Pasinetti, including *Il Canale degli Angeli* and *Venezia Minore*. It is hoped that Antonioni will take part in a forum on the influence of Pasinetti.

The Electric Cinema Club is presenting the first British screening of *Satan's Brew*, R. W. Fassbinder's exercise in high bad taste, made in 1976. It is a bizarre, full-blooded black comedy with Kurt Raab as a revolutionary poet who never writes anything, but develops the obsession that he is the German poet Stefan George—an identity which requires him to do a wig and play homosexual. His household includes a shrewish little blonde wife, a girl who is supposed to support him on immoral earnings, a wary and bespectacled lady from the country and a mad brother who collects dead flies on which he has obscure sexual designs.

There is a frenzy about it all to which you will either submit or, personally, I prefer Fassbinder's comedy when he plays it straight; and in any case, after a mere four years, the "permissive-era" anxiety to shock the bourgeoisie already looks a bit dated. Still, it is definitely a collector's piece.

David Robinson

Lindsay Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Wednesday was the 75th birthday of Sir Michael Tippett. In the evening he went to South Bank and heard the first London performance of his fourth string quartet which appropriately occupied the first half of the Lindsay Quartet's contribution to the current "Mainly Beethoven" series there. When it was over he took the platform, looking as zealous as ever and hardly older than the four youngsters beside him, for whom he had written it and who are the loyal champions of the new quartet all over Britain this year. It gave the perfect opportunity for the audience to convey birthday greetings in person, and we did so vociferously when eventually the Lindsay sent him back for a solo call.

There was inevitably limited space in our "Festivals Supplement" last month for Paul Griffiths to more than summarily discuss Tippett's fourth quartet in his report on the Bath Festival at which its first performance took place. Thirty-three years separate it from its predecessor, years which have seen the composition of Tippett's four operas as well as symphonies, three piano sonatas, and much else in which his musical language has taken giant strides, not so much towards greater elaboration as towards clarity and intensity of expression.

With its single-movement structure of four sections thematically unified, the new quartet will appear like a paragon to the fourth symphony, as the second piano sonata (also in one movement) was related to the first. The slow first movement shudders into being, tremolos alternating with still, more or less vibrant chords, like the contractions of maternal labour—a parallel to the start of the fourth symphony. The tempo quickens, Tippett's own words, Tippett's chief disciple, encourages us to regard the whole quartet as another "birth to death" cycle.

From those preliminary stirrings the music erupts into a big, argumentative, vigorous quick movement. Tippett's own adaptation of classical sonata form, development being replaced by another varied recapitulation, since the music is developing all the time (he explained the process in his preface to the first edition of last Saturday's edition of the Times).

The third movement, as it were a Beethoven adagio rethought in Tippett's own present-day terms, includes profound calm, weightless dancing, families in his music since since *Bohemia's End*, and the evocation of benevolent magic, likewise central to his musical imagery. It is doubtless intended as the quarter's emotional core, though at present it seems rather an intermezzo between two vital quick movements, the finale truly invigorating, with a deliberate near-quotation from Beethoven's *Grosse Fuge* that looks back to the equivalent movement in Tippett's third symphony. Gradually the energy abates into a serene, harmonious coda, surely not the calm of death, but the repose of a war, confident and loving heart. The performance, fully appreciative of the music's sympathetic string writing and vivid emotion, must have been the perfect birthday present for its genial composer.

Peter Frankl
Wigmore Hall

There was further proof on Wednesday of Peter Frankl's long devotion to Schumann when he launched a series of five recitals devoted to the composer's piano music. If not constituting quite as complete a survey as his recent undertaking for the gramophone, certainly all the major works can be heard from him at Wigmore Hall within the next six weeks, more often than not with some specific theme or group underpinning the programme.

On Wednesday the basic link was the dance; the spirit of masquerade so dear to Schumann in youth. Rather than overdoing things, Frankl omitted *Papillons*, the composer's first night out of this kind, choosing instead to flank the *Davidshändlerchen* of 1837 with the slightly earlier *Carnaval* and slightly later *Faschingschwank aus Wien*.

Of all three works he found unbounded physical energy and exuberance of spirit. His plunge into *Faschingschwank aus Wien* at the outset of the recital made the piece more of a jester in a little faster tempo. Danube-billows, a hot-blooded Budapest. In this first movement and the finale, speed and zest occasionally militated against finesse. But the middle movements were persuasive, especially the ardent intermezzo.

Moving on to the *Davidshändlerchen*, with all its secrets for Schumann's bride-to-be, Mr Frankl favoured sharp contrasts between the Florestan and Eusebius in the composer's make-up. Occasionally his Florestan was a little too boisterous, with some coarsening of tone and thickening of texture. But there were many compensating beauties from the intro-spective Eusebius, with melodies warmly and winningly phrased. Frankl also made much of hidden thematic links and developments.

In *Carnaval* Schumann assembled members of his Davidshändler to fight the Philistines. Here, Mr Frankl's approach was bold and brave enough to suggest that he could start perhaps some of the requested majesty was missing from the introduction, as also from the "Character Noble". But intervening character studies were piquantly contrasted, and the concluding march was a virtuoso tour de force.

Riding by numbers

The Great Bike Race
BBC 2

Joan Bakewell

It was both very male and very French and as befits an event of such confusion and complexity it yielded a programme full of confusing statistics. One hundred and fifty cyclists set out on last year's Tour de France to cycle 2,400 miles in four weeks, averaging 20 miles an hour. They were followed by 200 cars, escorted by 26,000 gendarmes, and rode on machines that cost £2,500 each. After 24 days, 90 completed the course, the winner reaching the finish in Paris three minutes ahead of the runner-up.

Well, there had to be more to it than statistics. And fortunately for the programme there was. Commercialism, for a start. The small town of Fleurance in the south of France, where the race started there, and any village en route that pleaded to be spared the tour circus, was quickly noddled by the political pull of the race's organizer. So the circus ways came to town. Michelin tyre men, policemen moonlighting to advertise underpants and journalists who rode behind, saw nothing, but filed rumours each night. And among the colourful carry-on of our inept camera crew.

The race was a marathon of endurance; so was the editing of the film. Only by keeping cameras turning constantly could they have picked up such vignettes as the rider in an eye-witness cycling, the bunching and collision of cycles as their riders grabbed for food-bags, the visiting trio of British cycling enthusiasts, who have been spectators since 1957, and a kaleidoscopic sequence of evocative images—barbecues, faces, breakfasts, handbags, muscles, fog, and the yellow sweater of the leader.

The mileage of the film must have matched the mileage of the race. In selecting and pacing it the filmmakers, with Robert Toner as producer, went for a colourfully impressionistic account. Not for them any heavy-handed judgments. Cases of drugs, fixing, and even the death in an earlier year of a British cyclist, were mentioned without breaking in on the tone of rather startled enjoyment. Jack Pizze was the reporter gently startled by all these manic French antics. Naturally, he sought out Britain's only rider, a genial modest Paul Sherwin, and a British team riding for Raleigh who turned out to be Continental managed by a Dutchman. The English, he explained, did not have the mentality for it. In the event, neither did the team. I don't hold it against them. The race may have been French but the programme was delightfully English. But then, they have the mentality for it.



William Pool (Orto the Swineherd), with pigs, in *The Pig Organ*, the opera by Richard Blackford which opened at the Round House last night

Cinderella
Covent Garden

John Percival

The Covent Garden Orchestra, which sounded distinctly scratchy when *Cinderella* returned to the repertoire before Christmas, has settled down to it nicely; might the initial difficulties have been another symptom of this season's rehearsal difficulties arising from the pay negotiations? Barry Wordworth has taken over from Ashley Lawrence as conductor for the latter part of the run and maintains his predecessor's crisp rhythms. Wednesday brought another new cast in the romantic leads. Marguerite Porter brings a more glamorous air than Lesley Collier did to the ballroom scene, but she does not dance

so surely or so musically. If you could combine the best qualities of both, you would have a good *Cinderella*.

In the kitchen scenes, the choreography puts much emphasis on delicate, precise and quick footwork, which is not Porter's greatest strength. I thought she was overdoing the winsomeness in her acting at first, but perhaps that is unfair; I was probably watching her more closely than one usually does because the ugly sisters are so boring this season.

Not so, perhaps, if you see them once only, because they go through the routines worked out by earlier, better casts; but there is no spark of original life in their playing. Even Michael Coleman seems to have given up the attempt to build a character and is concentrating instead on visual

saga. Many couples have played the roles apart from the famous Ashton-Helpmann team, but I cannot remember such a dull result.

Mark Silver made a fine, swaggering entrance as the prince, looked well in the costume, partnered attentively and danced with bounding energy. His big solo seemed rather unfocused, but it went with enough of a flourish to get by.

Once again, as earlier in the run, the ensemble of 12 mid-night fairies provided more secure, polished and enjoyable dancing than most of the soloists. There is fresh young talent available, but (contrary to the declared policy) it has few chances to develop while the limited performing time goes mainly to reward long service. That is no way to build for the Royal Ballet's future.

Ehrhardt/Drake
Purcell Room

Max Harrison

Flute and harp, alone or together, tend to mellow, pastoral, sensuous modes of expression and it was interesting at Wednesday night's concert by Marianne Ehrhardt and Susan Drake to observe how different composers cope with this, either swimming with the tide or against it. Berio's *Sequenza* is a rather nigliging exploration of the unaccompanied flute's more abrasive potentialities and hence a move against accepted stereotypes. Miss Ehrhardt's account of it was persuasive, but Ibert's *Pièce* fell more gratefully on the ear. This essay the French pastoral vein, yet with an unexpected forcefulness.

The main event, however, was what must have been the first performance in recent decades of Bar's Sonata for flute and harp (not to be confused with the one for harp and viola). This was written in 1928, had a few performances, and then was lost, but survived in a unique, lately rediscovered, photocopy. If the music had given up the attempt to build a character and is concentrating instead on visual

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

THIRTIES

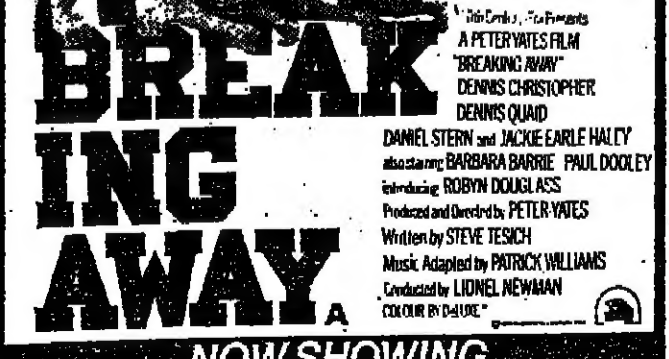
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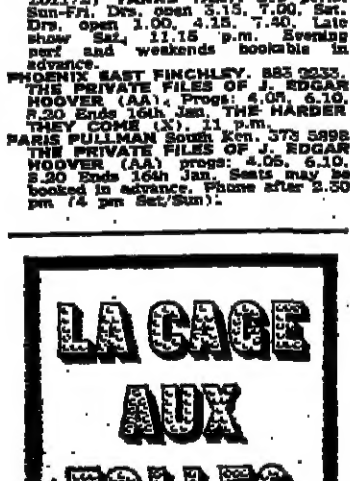
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As Sir Ian Gilmour announces his plans to settle our EEC deficit...

A £1,000m mission to Europe

Sometime today Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, is to announce his plans for visiting European Community capitals as part of the Government's Euro-strategy to square the circle with our EEC partners over Britain's contribution to the budget.

His first call will be to Rome next week when he meets Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister, who is also President of the Community.

Sir Ian will state that he hopes to complete his European mission within three weeks, the aim being to get a general agreement from all other member states that there should be an early European summit in February to thrash out once and for all Britain's £1,000m deficit contribution to the Community funds. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, who is also part of the same exercise, will take a different route and will not visit all the capitals.

What they will be saying, however, will be much the same thing, and it is the style which is going to be as important as the substance. The abrasive tone, as seen by our European partners, adopted by Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the Dublin summit, is being scaled down. Though the purpose still remains the achievement of a broad balance between pay-

ments into and receipts from the EEC funds, diplomacy, judging by the signals emitted from Whitehall, rather than dogma, is to be the essence of the approach.

The Foreign Office, and that means ministers as well as officials, never really fully approved of the combative approach to the Dublin summit as a means of settling Britain's justified complaint. It was clear there was a subtle difference in the decibel level of noise coming from Downing Street and King Charles Street.

Mrs Thatcher, as she leads Britain into the eighties, may have thrust her personality on to our European partners, but the reaction has not always been favourable. The West German daily newspaper *Die Welt*, declaring that "there has never been the slightest doubt about the unswerving resolution and certain direction of the woman", has just nominated her as Woman of the Year. In France, however, an opinion poll conducted by *L'Express*, showed that only the Ayatollah Khomeini, President Brezhnev and Shakh Yamani, the Saudi Arabia oil minister, were distrusted more by the French people.

Among her own party, the MPs at Westminster and members of the European Parliament, there are differences of

interpretation of the Prime Minister's real commitment to the EEC (Nato and the defence of Europe, of course, is a different and not wholly directly connected matter.) Some of them, putting their disillusionment politely, describe her attitude as an agnosticism on a par with Mr James Callaghan's.

The comparison goes deeper than appears at first sight. It was one of her closest supporters, in a revealing moment, who privately drew attention to the fact that in all the arguments before and after the Dublin summit Mrs Thatcher was inclined to pull her punches with the Leader of the Opposition over the European issue in the customary points scoring exchanges across the Commons dispatch box.

Mrs Thatcher has left the impression that the Labour government did the best it could when it renegotiated the Treaty of Rome in 1975 and that the real trouble lies elsewhere. The Prime Minister's finger points in the direction of the Heath government, of which she was a cabinet minister, and the terms negotiated for Britain's entry into the European Community. "Let's face it," said one of her advisers in a candid mood, "Europe is our Achilles heel".

Mr Heath, picking up the hints, has had his own say on

this matter. He has expressed the view that the seriousness with which the British treated the budgetary problem would have been more credible to our partners if we had put forward specific proposals for more Community spending in Britain "yet to my knowledge no such proposals were put forward either at the Dublin summit or since".

The indications now are that in these areas Sir Ian and Sir Geoffrey may make further explorations, but there are fundamental problems involved here which could run counter to the Government's overall economic and financial strategy.

Community increases in social and regional aid, for example, would have to be channelled through our exchequer increasing the value of money in the economy and also, in some circumstances, leading to increases in public expenditure.

While monetarism holds sway in government, there are other thoughts being developed among ardent Europeanists. Tory MPs at Westminster. Shortly before the Christmas recess a number of them had a series of sessions analysing the meaning that lies behind the Brandt commission report (so named because Lord Willy Brandt, a member) which coincidentally is to be published in February,

about the time of the proposed European summit.

The commission was created at the instigation of the World Bank in 1977, and its report is entitled "North-South: a programme for survival". What it will propose, among other things, is a large transfer of resources to the less developed countries from the industrialized nations. Part of the argument for helping these areas by stimulating growth is that it will also help to head off a world recession.

It is a policy which has been applied on a national basis since the Second World War until latterly, and it was a Conservative MP who succinctly spelt out its implications. "It is Keynesianism on an international scale and it has to be the way forward," he said recently.

He did not have to state that it was Mr Heath who helped to draw up the report, but the gravamen of his message was distinctly clear. Other countries in Europe are more likely to take note of its contents than the British Government in its present mood. There is little doubt that he and others will be working for a change of attitude from the moment Parliament returns the week after next.

Michael Hatfield



Student doctors confront strikers at Charing Cross Hospital.

Hospital strikes: how far can volunteers go?

The chorus of protest from trade unions and labour politicians which greeted Mr Patrick Jenkin's recently issued guidelines to health authorities about the handling of industrial disputes, highlights what is likely to become one of the thorniest political issues in the next few years, the role of volunteers in the event of the disruption of health and social services by union action.

Traditionally, the voluntary sector in the health and social services has not been a very contentious issue in Britain. There has been a general consensus that, like religion and morality, it is generally a good thing.

In the last year both major political parties have convened high-level study groups to examine ways in which voluntary action in the community might be encouraged. The Labour group, chaired by Mr Stansley, drew the shadow spokesman on health and social services, was set up on the direct initiative of Mr Callaghan, who was concerned at the apparent decline of the values of fraternity and good neighbourliness in Britain. The Conservative group, under Mrs Lynda Chalker, was inspired by the self-help, voluntarist ethic of Mrs Thatcher.

Although neither party has made its group's report public, both seem to have come up with remarkably similar conclusions about the growing importance of the voluntary sector at a time of nil growth in statutory services and the need for volunteers to be seen as complementary to rather than a substitute for professional workers in the fields of health, education and welfare.

Two events have shattered this consensus, however. The first was the hospital workers' strike last February and the second was the election of a Conservative Government which aroused deep-seated Labour fears about the dismantling of the welfare state and its replacement by greater reliance on volunteers and on self-help. The debate over the hospital workers' strike began after Mr David Ennals, the then Secretary of State for Health, had said that hospitals should consult unions before calling in volunteers. Although he subsequently changed his position, Mr Ennals' initial statement was strongly condemned by the

There are fears that using volunteers as strike breakers will jeopardize the trust that has built up between voluntary and paid hospital workers...

Conservatives who were also highly critical of the guidelines for relationships between volunteers and paid non-professional workers in the health and social services drawn up by the Volunteer Centre.

The 1974 guidelines, laid down that volunteers should undertake no more voluntary work in an industrial dispute than they would do in a normal situation and that they should not cross picket lines without the agreement of unions and management.

It was generally agreed that, as operated last winter, the guidelines did not operate in the best interests of patients' welfare. They are currently being revised but Mr Ian Bruce, director of the Volunteer Centre, says that there are considerable difficulties in getting an agreed form of words on the role and use of volunteers.

Following the hospital workers' strike, leading Conservatives made strong pleas for volunteers to be encouraged to take over the work of striking workers. Mrs Thatcher told a conference of Young Conservatives in February: "We have a great national tradition of voluntary service. There are enough people in the country resolved to keep it going and determined not to yield to bullying enough to state off this kind of disaster if it ever

threatened. At such a time, it would be the duty of government to harness this spirit and reserve to the service of our people."

It is in the spirit of this sentiment that Mr Patrick Jenkin's new guidelines are conceived. They lay down that health authorities "should if they feel it necessary during a dispute, make such use of volunteers as they think fit" and "should consider now how they can tap the help the general public are usually and spontaneously prepared to offer in response to the needs of sick people. Ministers will support any authority which makes use of volunteers during industrial action."

The response of the trade unions and Labour movement to this approach was predictable. Behind it lie deep-seated suspicions of volunteers which are still associated in many minds with rationing, charity and distant folk memories of the part that mid-class volunteers played in breaking the General Strike of 1926.

There is also a genuine fear that the use of volunteers as strike breakers will jeopardize already fragile relationships of mutual trust which have been painstakingly built up between volunteers and paid workers in hospitals and social services over the years. Mr Orme has said: "If Mrs Thatcher puts the flag up and marches in front of volunteers, then we will certainly oppose her because she will do countless damage for the future."

On the other side, there is a strong feeling, not just among Conservatives, that the events of last winter should not be allowed to recur in a civilized society and that if normal services to the sick and disabled are withdrawn, and volunteers are ready and able to provide it, they should be encouraged to do so.

Already, in the recent dispute at Charing Cross Hospital, doctors and nurses have shown where they stand. It will be impossible for voluntary bodies and individual volunteers to remain above this particular political battle themselves for much longer. Sooner or later, they too will have to take the decision as to where they stand.

Ian Bradley

The rift grows between US blacks and Jews

The event which impinged most forcefully on the collective consciousness of American Jewry in 1979 was undoubtedly the departure last summer of Mr Andrew Young from his post as United States Ambassador to the United Nations. Most of the articulate leaders of the American blacks saw it as the victimization of their hero by the influential Jews and an already simmering conflict between the two minority groups boiled over.

Since his appointment by President Carter, Andrew Young's forays into foreign affairs had frequently embarrassed his mentor. In a comment on the Russian treatment of dissidents, Mr Young earned a rebuke for his statement that America also held political prisoners. He had freely expounded a "black perspective" which often clashed with the declared policies of the administration of which he was a member. This perspective charged the United States with responsibility for the refugee problem in Indochina, proposed the ending of the American

economic embargo of Cuba and challenged aspects of the government's missile programme.

The last straw for Mr Carter was Mr Young's unauthorized meeting with a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization of which he gave a misleading account to the State Department when it came to light. The Israel Ambassador in Washington protested that it violated an agreement between their two governments. The State Department was no less indignant and Mr Young was asked to go.

As it happened, the resignation was announced while the annual meeting was taking place of Mr Young's own group, the Southern Church Leadership Conference. In informing the assembly of the event, an official added that "the perception on the street is that the Jews did this to Andy Young".

With very few exceptions, that indeed was the perception of black leaders. One of them, the Rev Jesse Jackson, President of Push (People United to Save Humanity) declared

that the resignation was a capitulation to "our former allies, the American Jewish community".

The issue was not whether Mr Young was right or wrong, whether Mr Carter had acted properly or not or even whether it was true that "the Jews did this". The blacks assumed it was so and presumably still do, notwithstanding the President's categorical assurance that the allegation was "absolutely and totally false".

For Jesse Jackson and his colleagues, the enforced resignation of Young was another stage in a continuing dispute between blacks and Jews for, as he explained, "when there wasn't much decency in society, Jews were willing to share decency. The conflict began when we started our quest for power. Jews were willing to share decency but not power".

Mr Jackson's reference to the willingness of Jews to share decency must have been intended to refer to the post-war

struggle for civil rights. In that fight, the blacks had no more loyal allies than the organized Jewish community. A liberal coalition of blacks, Jews, labour and church leaders achieved the momentous civil rights advances of the fifties. But President Kennedy precisely observed that, while it was very important that blacks should have the legal right to enter any public place, the right of coffee that right went very little without the ten cents to pay for the coffee.

The blacks began to demand the ten cents. New organizations like the SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) and the Black Panthers were no longer claiming black rights, they were asserting black power. Not only were their Jewish supporters alienated by this militancy, they were also repelled by the anti-Jewish news announced by some of the new radical black leaders like Howard Cruse, Malcolm X and LeRoi Jones.

A recent study of anti-Semitism in America concludes that about 15 per cent more blacks than whites held negative images of Jews in the economic context and that black anti-Semitism is growing in contrast to its general decline in the United States of America since the war. This phenomenon is generally attributed to the upward mobility and the Black Power movement in residential areas vacated by Jews who, however, continued to own the houses and the shops. The blacks became the tenants and the customers, groups not necessarily well disposed to landlords and shopkeepers.

That growing resentment was aggravated by the Jewish reaction to black requests for preferential treatment. In the sixties and seventies, blacks were saying that they could not now, after three centuries of oppression, be expected to compete on equal terms and that their progress could only be assured if they were now given some preference in the com-

petitive areas of university admission, jobs and promotion. While Jews favoured affirmative action, they strongly objected to the preferential granting to blacks of fixed quotas in schools or of jobs. For the Jews, who had in the recent past suffered from them, the principle of quotas was anathema.

The Bakke case decided by the Supreme Court in June 1978 was about the constitutionality of a preferential quota for blacks at a medical school. All the Jewish organizations were on one side with the blacks on the other, a collision of interests which marked the de facto end of the Jewish-black alliance and black leaders tried desperately to emphasize the "shared goals that still unite and bind us together".

To the existing two areas of conflict, economic antagonisms and preferential treatment, the anti-Jewish resignation has added a third—the identification of the most vigorous of the black leaders with the cause of the Palestinians. They are seen as the oppressed while Israel and the Jews (the two are perceived as identical) are placed in the role of the oppressors.

One of the few remaining moderate black leaders, Vernon E. Jordan Junior, President of the National Urban League, has warned that "black-Jewish relations should not be endangered by ill-considered flirtations with extremist groups devoted to the extermination of Israel" and it is not clear how far the militancy of the leadership has permeated to the rank and file for, on the local level, black and Jewish organizations continue to work together on common causes.

But American Jews and their leaders have no illusions. They have been shocked by the intensity of the anti-Jewish feeling among blacks which the Young affair has released. How to deal with it will be the top item on their agenda for 1980.

William Frankel

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AUSTIN REED

The operatic adventures of Hary...

The mere fact of being Hungarian must be very satisfying. It is so complete that it leaves a comfortably free space to try and be other things than else where cost a lifetime's alienation: a doctor, journalist, a scientist, even a sports score board factory manager (the Hungarians are making them for the Moscow Olympics). "I think Hungarian, and so I am," that is really the message of that most gracious of patriotic operas, Kodaly's *Hary Janos*, which, as everybody knows, it had been written by an Englishman or a German or a Frenchman, it would have been called *Janos Hary* because that is the real order of Christian name and surname of the hero whose adventures half Budapest tried to see once again during the holidays as a type of happy halfway house between *Fidelio*, and the pantomime, and most of them came from streets called "Bartok Bela Utca" or "Liszt Ferenc Utca" and saw their leader in *Kodaly Janos* as a reminder that Hungarians write their names backwards.

Just look at the programme cover and you have it all: the first adventure of Hary, or Janos takes place at a border-post where the sun always shines and life is beautiful on the Hungarian side of the red and white pole while across the frontier, towards Russia obviously, snow and ice and inhumanity dominate. Personally, I have a very fond relationship with this opera. It has come to mean to me what I suppose it means to Hungarians, that is the best of Eastern Europe. I last saw it in 1976 in East Berlin. I was there for the conference of European Communist parties when Eurocommunism was at the height of its fashionable vogue. I telephoned the Komische

Oper to find out what they were performing. They said they were reviving the late great Walter Felsenstein's *Carmen*. I asked them to put aside for me I would like to see it again for old time's sake.

The Communists at the conference talked on and, sensing that the curtain must be about rising, I telephoned once again to the opera-house. "You are really in luck," they said. "The soprano is ill. We cannot do *Carmen* and we are trying to assemble the cast for *Hary Janos*. Which in any case will interest you much more, because it is rarer but the start will be at least an hour late."

I arrived just as the curtain was going up on a for me, quite new staging by Felsenstein. At the box-office they said: "We have kept your ticket for you. You are sure to enjoy it. Come along to your seat." Quite apart from the charm of Janos, and the enthusiasm of a packed audience, I thought about what chance, I, an unknown foreigner, would have had of persuading the Covent Garden booking office to keep a ticket for me, or the Rome Opera House for that matter, unless I spoke to the superintendent himself. I framed their poster showing Hary's splendid adventures between truth and elaboration together, as he tells us, amount to a new truth. In Budapest this week, the production was less complicated than Felsenstein's but more effective, or else I am getting more emotional.

Throughout the opera, Janos never forgets his origins and so the producer keeps an idealized painting of the hero's hometown up among the clouds in every scene. And for the new year, the party newspaper did much the same with a huge cartoon entitled "Our happy little village". Hungary is shown as a kind of reserve of plenty in the bottom right hand corner and, in the rest of the world, there are traffic jams, the Mafia, terrorism, drug addiction, African tyrants, missiles,



bank robberies, the Ku Klux Klan, the multinational, every horror imaginable in the intricate detail of the style of a didactic painting by Hieronymus Bosch. The Hungarian scene is comfortable as the family eats and drinks in easy chairs and even the dog is replete. Though a minister is telling them on television that harder times are on the way.

This is a reminder that Hungary's healthy foreign trade balance started to go awry in 1974 with the rise in oil prices, and now the country is feeling the effects of a nine per cent price rise, largely in foodstuffs. One of the current jokes is that the Vatican offered to make Hungary's national day a religious feast: to which the Government's reply was that they would declare 1980 a whole year of Lent. Undoubtedly the principal Hungarian consideration for this year will be to try and maintain what they have rather than expect any increase in standards.

Esterhazy meant the building to be a university but Joseph II's policies of state pre-eminence meant that it never fulfilled that function. It remained the property of the Church, however, until after the Second World War. The Church now possesses only the part which houses the library of which 50,000 volumes are stored in a chapel of Haydn-esque grace. It has not been used for services since 1950. The rest of the building is a state school, dedicated to Ho

Chi Minh whose brazen face is there at the top of a noble flight of stairs alongside which is also decorated with a bronze bust of Lenin.

The two worlds are not that much apart. Party headquarters are on the same corridor as the former chapel and exactly next door to the entrance to the library reading room. And they tell this story in the archbishop's palace. A priest in a loyal village died and, because of the shortage of manpower, the archbishop decided not to replace him. The village's religious requirements were supposed to be met by priests from neighbouring places. They took turns to say mass and give confirmation lessons to the children. Then came the day of the bishop's arrival to carry out the confirmation.

The villagers took over the empty house of the priest, painted it, hung curtains and planted the garden with flowers. When the bishop appeared they pointed out that all they lacked was a priest to live in it. The bishop could not refuse them. A priest was sent.

Where to eat? The tobaccoist was passionate in his advice. "Take the first turning to the right and, on the right, you will see a restaurant called (I think) Vadar. Whatever you do don't go there." "No, of course not!" "It is too expensive. The prices are first-class and more. Whatever you do, don't go to Vadar." "We promise we won't." "Avoid it, because you will be throwing money away." "Yes, but where should we eat?" "Well, on the same street, there is another place, just after Vadar, but whatever you do, don't stop at Vadar, you'll be sorry if you do." "I suppose this is the effect of living in Bartok Bela Utca and crowding in to see Hary Janos which are both the wrong way round."

Peter Nichols

مكزامن الاصيل



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STAMPEDE FOR GOLD

On Wednesday of this week the price of gold on the free market went up by more than the whole of its pre-1971 official price of \$35 an ounce. Yesterday it rose by almost twice that amount. Leaving out handling and storage charges, anyone who has held gold over the period between 1971 and last night will now be showing a capital gain of roughly 1,700 per cent. Even currency and bullion markets, jaded by years of seemingly continual and increasing instability, sense that something different in quality to past eruptions is in progress.

It must, on purely technical grounds, be likely that the price will fall back, perhaps quite sharply at some close date. The incentive to take profits of the order that have suddenly become available in so short a time will surely induce some to sell. However the nature of this market's explosion is different from speculative excesses in other financial markets. In this case much of the buying has as its motive a long-term move out of currencies into a less politically and economically vulnerable store of value. Gold buying from this motive will not suddenly become gold-selling for that very reason.

This stampede to buy gold, however, is different from previous currency crises in another respect as well. When a national currency comes under unbearable pressure in the markets, the politicians, the Treasuries and the central banks involved are forced to recognize at least the symptoms of the problem and to take some appropriate action. Even with the dollar itself, in recent years the pressures have built up to such a stage that action was forced. An example was the general realignment of the dollar against other

currencies at the Smithsonian Institution negotiations in December, 1971.

In the present case, however, the rise in the price of gold itself is in relation to all currencies, though to some noticeably more than to others. The only immediate effect is that the free market value of the gold component of national gold and currency reserves is substantially increased. No direct pressure of crisis proportions is exerted directly on anyone. Politicians and monetary authorities as a result do not have an imperative spur to action.

Yet, as the postwar monetary system with its links between official institutions and private banks, begins visibly to crumble, it is essential that a coordinated plan of reform be instituted. Given the present fragmentation of leadership in the non-Communist world, it is unrealistic to think in terms of some grand new design, negotiated and agreed by all comparable to the design of the post-1945 world monetary system negotiated largely by the Americans and ourselves at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, in 1944. There is no possibility to securing general enough acceptance of any overarching reform to make the endeavour worth the expense of political capital. The way forward will have to be largely by unilateral and bilateral action. These actions must, however, fit within a general and consistent framework of analysis.

The problem has two distinct aspects. There is first the role of dollars and other currencies as reserve assets. This is largely a dollar problem, simply because the dollar is by far the largest currency component of international reserves. If inflation

remains and intensifies generally in the 1980s, it will become accordingly a problem that goes wider than just the dollar. Meanwhile the flight from currencies is into gold.

The second aspect, however, concerns the dollar's role as a medium of exchange, lubricating the whole of the world's trade and capital movements. It is a function that for the foreseeable future can only be conducted through the dollar, for there is no other currency in international circulation in sufficient quantities to perform the essential task. The role of the dollar is thus a responsibility of the whole world and not just of the United States.

In principle the only solution to these problems is clear. There are too many dollars in circulation. The unwanted surplus must therefore be removed from the market. The capital markets themselves cannot perform this function. In particular they cannot when all the major national governments are simultaneously concerned to avoid the inflation of their domestic money supplies that follows inevitably from major dollar support operations by central banks in the foreign exchange.

In some way holders of dollars have to be offered some reserve asset in terms and in the quantities sufficient to satisfy their current desire to diversify out of the dollar. The operation could be administered in any of a number of ways and under a number of different auspices. The most promising is probably a scheme handled by the major central banks. All that is certain is that further benign neglect of the issue is inflicting grave and lasting damage on the international economic system.

THE UNITED NATIONS' EMPTY CHAIR

It is unfortunate that at a time when the United Nations is being called upon to play a critical role in events in both Iran and Afghanistan it should be hampered by difficulties in making up the membership of the Security Council. For the first time in its history it has not been possible to reach agreement on new non-permanent members, and the result is that the Council has had only fourteen members instead of fifteen. The remaining seat, which belongs to the representative of the Latin American countries, is being contested by Cuba and Colombia, and neither has been able to muster the two-thirds majority in the General Assembly which is needed for election, in spite of no less than 148 ballots. A fresh attempt is to be made today. There are already signs that the Soviet Union may try to take advantage of the uncertainty that has been created by challenging the legal competence of the reduced Council to vote on Afghanistan.

The Soviet attitude should be seen for what it is, an attempt to grasp at a legal technicality at a time when it finds itself in great diplomatic difficulties. The fourteen-member Council has been functioning in a formal sense since January 1, without any challenges, and the view of Dr Erik Suy, the United Nations legal counsel, is that it has the power to make binding decisions

in the same way as if it had its full membership. Therefore, even if the Soviet Union tries to take advantage of the unprecedented situation, the response must be to press ahead with vital Security Council business while attempting to solve the question of the Latin American seat as soon as possible. Some way can certainly be found, perhaps by agreement on a generally acceptable Latin American replacement for both Cuba and Colombia, such as Mexico, or by using a device which has broken similar deadlocks in the past—having each of the two countries serve one year of the normal two-year term.

There is no question that, whatever its failings, the United Nations does have a unique and important role to play. It is regarded as particularly important by the non-aligned countries, and it is significant that the move to bring up the Soviet takeover of Afghanistan in the Security Council is being led by members of their group, particularly such Muslim countries as Pakistan and Bangladesh. Some thought was given at one point to the idea of bringing the issue up in the General Assembly, where there is no Soviet veto and where it was thought that the Americans might get a majority for some form of condemnation of the Soviet action. But the Security Council is clearly the proper place for consideration of threats to inter-

national peace and security—and if the issue becomes stalled there as a result of Soviet tactics it can always be taken to the General Assembly subsequently. It is important that the representatives assembled in the United Nations, so often ready by a majority to criticize the United States and the West for their misdeeds, should now clearly see the Soviet Union for this act of aggression. This purpose will be served even if the Soviet Union vetoes a Security Council resolution directed against it.

When it comes to action rather than words, the capacity of the United Nations is more limited. There is no question that it has played an extremely important part in keeping the peace in some very volatile parts of the world—the Middle East, Kashmir, Cyprus—by sending in United Nations forces. But the imposition of sanctions on Rhodesia was hardly a great success and there is bound to be scepticism about the effect of sanctions on the Iranian situation, even if the required majority can be attained in the Security Council. On the other hand the unanimous call by the Security Council last month for the immediate release of the American hostages in Tehran, and the subsequent setting of the January 7 deadline, have certainly added to the pressure on the Iranian regime—whether to any useful effect remains to be seen.

Search and entry powers

From Mr Thomas H. Band
Sir, I write as a solicitor (retired) of 41 years' standing and as a General Commissioner of Income Tax.
When it was decided in 1976 to strengthen the powers of the Inland Revenue in their task of assessing and collecting taxes lawfully due from citizens to the state, there could be no objection in principle because, for technical reasons, their previous powers had become inadequate. But when I saw the proposal in the Finance Bill to break away entirely from the existing machinery and authorize an Inspector of Taxes anything he fancied and seize anything of his own Affidavit of Suspicion, rubber-stamped by a Justice of the Peace, I was appalled.
I wrote to the Attorney General (Mr Sam Silkin) to remind him that General Commissioners, carefully selected laymen appointed by the Lord Chancellor, existed to handle the various alterations which arise between Revenue and taxpayer; they sit in private and send for persons and papers. I recommended that their power should be enlarged so that they could order entry and search in suitable cases.
The Attorney General replied to say that he found my suggestion "interesting" and would refer it to a Treasury Minister. It seems that the drafting process had gone so far that the Treasury could or would not change the brutal approach which they had adopted. All that happened was that two members of the Board of Inland Revenue were to make the Affidavit of Suspicion and the fiat of a Circuit Judge was substituted for that of a Justice of the Peace. Now we have the totalitarian spectre of the Rossminster proceedings (Law Report, December 14).

One of the Law Lords was naive enough to advise the public that the fiat of a Crown Court Judge should now be substituted for that of a Circuit Judge. Even if the fiat of a Law Lord were substituted, it would rapidly become a clerical formality

unless, of course, he undertook to handle the case himself after the papers had been seized and examined and the tax assessments raised.
Let it be announced immediately how many Circuit Judges have refused search warrants when confronted with an Affidavit of Suspicion. And let the draftsmen of the Finance Bill, 1980, set to work at once so that the fiasco of 1976 is not repeated.
Yours faithfully,
THOMAS H. BAND,
Friar Gate,
102 Tiddington Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.

Legal training grants

From Mr Adrian Room
Sir, Is Mr J. H. Stevenson (December 31) doing so badly? I wish I earned £5 for every 40 minutes work I put in. Even with a 35-hour working week, that works out at £13,650 pa. Who needs a private income or a working wife in such a comfortable income bracket?
Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROOM,
172 The Causeway,
Petersfield,
Hampshire,
December 31.

Insufficient jobs

From Mr Bernard Hamilton
Sir, Your leader "Taking the dose off the index" (December 20) seems more relevant to times past than to our present state of knowledge. The majority of this country's one and a half million unemployed are not so occupied because they have no financial incentive to get a job, but because there is a shortage of jobs.
Yours faithfully,
BERNARD HAMILTON,
Furness College,
University of Lancaster,
Bailrigg,
Lancashire,
December 20.

Aims of the PLO

From Mr J. Garnel
Sir, Mr Dominic Asquith (December 22) claims he is "entitled to take the view that the elimination of Zionism is not necessarily the same thing as the destruction of Israel" and adds, how unfortunately it is that "many of those who cite the National Charter give the impression that they have never bothered to read it with any care".

Before making such rash statements, Mr Asquith should have re-read the Palestinian National Covenant. Its 33 Articles are all dedicated to the replacement of Israel with a "liberated" Palestine, which according to Article 1 is "an integral part of the Arab nation". Article 19 states: "The partitioning of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of Israel is fundamentally void whatever time has elapsed". The Palestinian Covenant makes perfectly clear that the PLO aim is to raise the Palestinian flag over the Knesset. The means of achieving Arab rule is contained in Article 6 which decrees that only "Jews who were living permanently in Palestine" before the "Zionist invasion" in 1917 "will be considered disenfranchised Palestinians". This would disenfranchise the majority of Israel's Jews, including the 800,000 refugees from Arab countries, who left dispossessed, their property confiscated, when they became stateless following the UN partition in 1947 of what remained of mandated Palestine.

Appropriately, the caption above Mr Asquith's letter reads: "Obstacles to peace in the Middle East". The Jews of Israel assert and will defend the sovereignty of Israel as a member of the United Nations, created by the UN. It should be obvious even to Mr Asquith, that the ultimate aim of the PLO, as declared in its Covenant, can be achieved only by war.
Yours faithfully,
J. GARNEL,
1 Sussex Court,
Eaton Road,
Rove,
Sussex,
December 24.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

From Mr John L. Powell

Sir, The response of the West and particularly the United States to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has been disturbingly vacillating and irresolute. Notwithstanding the difficulties of anticipating the invasion, it was to be hoped that the art of crisis management had been developed to the point of deciding in advance, for rapid implementation, policies with which to respond to a crisis of similar nature and magnitude. Spontaneity of response in the form of threatening certain sanctions might have influenced Soviet action and the extent of the intervention. In the event, the advantage of possible influence of action inherent in a threat of sanctions has been lost leaving the dubious benefit of implementing sanctions by way of retribution.

Still, lessons can be learnt for the future and may I suggest four priorities?
First, the concept of "linkage" seems to have gone out of vogue during the Carter Administration. Whilst it is the prevailing and probably better view that the concept should not intrude upon strategic arms negotiations, the concept is ripe for resurrection in other spheres of East-West relations. As the precedents of not only Afghanistan but also Angola, Ethiopia and Cambodia have demonstrated, the Soviet Union does not consider the matrix of treaties and understandings basic to detente inconsistent with third world adventurism whether by itself or its proxies. A priority for the 1980s therefore is to "link" progress and regression in East-West military, economic and cultural relations to Soviet behaviour in the third world so that it will be mutually recognized in advance that adventurism will attract a known range of sanctions. In short an unwritten code of sanctions needs to be evolved and recognized as correlative to genuine detente.

A second priority is for the West to reach a new understanding with regard to Islamic values and for Islamic values may differ, the 1970s slippage towards mutual suspicion and confrontation must be eschewed. The alternative is Soviet evolution of the consequent divide. Indeed, apparent subordination of American decision making to the Israeli position has been an opportunity for the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. Prime attention must be given by the West to improving relations with radical Arab regimes, especially Baathist Syria and Iraq in order to expand the over-concentrated focus for conflict to the Arab and potentially insecure regimes in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. A first step to that new understanding should be to take a firmer stance against the Begin Government's West Bank settlement policy. Difficult though that step would be for an American president in election year, it would also be in long term Israeli interests.

A third priority is for the West to increase support and economic aid for two vital states, Pakistan with Afghanistan claims to Balochistan and so-called Peshawar, and Turkey, with its internal economic and political problems, seem presently very vulnerable to Soviet opportunism.

Finally, Western Europe must take a far more active and concerted role to restrict Soviet adventurism. The evidence of doctrinal rigidity rather than similar to that of the United States. For too long

extra-European concerns have been abdicated to superpower duopoly as the tendency to categorize areas into American or Soviet spheres of influence have demonstrated. Despite relative economic and demographic decline, for the 1980s at least, it is likely that no other power will emerge (not even Japan and China) to rival Western Europe's collective economic and political strength next to that of the United States and the Soviet Union.

If the lessons of the Afghan invasion are not learnt, South-West Asia would seem to offer the new dominoes of the 1980s.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. POWELL,
2 Crown Office Rd.,
The Temple, EC1,
January 2.

From Mr R. Dele Igumu

Sir, The last two paragraphs of your excellent leader (January 2) are proving a little puzzling to my friends and me who, as Africans, can be described as being of the Third World.

A few months ago, France with technical assistance from the United States, sent troops to take over and overthrow Mr Bokassa of the then Central African Empire. French troops still occupy and control the country. As we recall there was general approval of the French action in the Western press. Previous to that action, France and Belgium had sent in troops to Zaire and also France had been engaged for years in Chad, with the tacit approval of the West.

When South Africa invaded Angola, a few years ago, it was then proclaimed in the Western press that it was acting as an instrument in the defence of Western interests. The Soviet action in Afghanistan has rightly been condemned as contrary to all accepted international principles of law and conduct. But we had no such condemnation of France or South Africa when they violated the same principles.

Sir, is this hypocrisy or plain dishonesty?
Again, Africans have for years been lectured about not "bringing politics into sport" whenever the boycott of South Africa is mooted. Now, we are told that Nato is now considering a collective boycott of the Moscow Olympics. I suppose that some sophisticated philosophy may be applied to distinguish the two circumstances.

A little more honesty in world and national policies may yet be the salvation of mankind.
Yours faithfully,
R. DELE IGUMU,
22 Gladys Road, NW6,
January 2.

From Mr Robert Tesian

Sir, How right Ray Whitney is in today's *Times* (January 2). But surely the International Olympic Committee should allow the games to continue while banning the Russians from competing. Such a decision would either force the Russians to cancel the Games or give "Olympic Glory" to the whole of their country. Both alternatives might prove a little difficult to explain away to the Russian people, given even *Proved's* skill at propaganda.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT TESIAN,
Reynolds Farm,
New Tyford,
Berkshire.

Setting doctrinal limits

From the Reverend R. T. Beckwith
Sir, It has been stated and accepted rather too readily in the current correspondence in your columns that the Church of England has abandoned all attempt at doctrinal discipline. Though the Church of England is exceedingly slow and reluctant in making action against clergy who violate their ordination vows in doctrinal matters (even in flagrant cases like those of bishops or professors of theology who deny the incarnation or the resurrection of our Lord), this is not the only indication of her attitude. If, in reply to my queries, she is to be seen to fear more scandal from disciplining an offender than from the offence itself, who can wonder? Nevertheless, reluctance to cause scandal is not the same thing as indifference.

It must be remembered that as recently as 1963, in the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure, the Church of England updated its machinery for dealing with doctrinal and other offences. The new machinery is moderate and fair but decidedly firm. It has not yet been employed, but it certainly could be, if the balance of scandal changed. Then, again, the Church of England in 1975 revised the form of words in which the clergy, at their ordination and at institution to any new living, subscribe to the formularies of the Church. The new form of words first proposed was criticised by a lawyer in the General Synod as evincing the declaration

of all meaning, and he therefore proposed an alternative form which was taken by the Synod's revision committee as the basis for its work. Of course, the outcome has been wishfully interpreted by some as committing them to nothing. They did the same with the previous form. But if words mean anything, and the intentions of legislators are relevant, those who subscribe accept the teaching of the Bible, the three Creeds, the 39 Articles and the 1662 Prayer Book.

One of your correspondents has interpreted the variety of options in the coming revision of Series 3 Holy Communion as the basis for its work. Being myself the joint promoter of the two further options now added, I should remind you readers that we did this in the interests of greater doctrinal seriousness on the basis of an agreed statement of doctrine and as a departure from the policy of deliberate ambiguity about doctrine previously followed in Series 3.

None of this bears directly on the case of King (whose denial of Papeal infallibility the Church of England endorses) of Schillebeeckx (whose sacramental teaching if that is in question, has a decidedly reformed flavour), but it may help to set Rome's dealings with her dissenters in a less distorted ecclesiastical context.
Yours faithfully,
R. T. BECKWITH,
The Warden,
Lewer House,
131 Banbury Road,
Oxford.

Elected to Europe

From Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP for Ardwick (Labour)
Sir, You head a letter in your issue of December 27 as coming "from Mr Derek Prag, MEP".

The Act of the United Kingdom Parliament governing the election of persons to sit in the body in question is the European Assembly Election Act 1978. Its long title begins: "An Act to make provision for and in connection with the

election of representatives to the Assembly of the European Communities". Throughout the Act the persons to be elected are described as "representatives" and never as "Members" and the body to which they are to be elected as an "Assembly" and never as a "Parliament".

Ought not a representative at the European Assembly therefore to be referred to as an REA?
Yours sincerely,
GERALD KAUFMAN,
House of Commons.

Dying in police custody

From Mr R. Anthony Lester
Sir, How many of your readers, I wonder, were as appalled as I at the statistics given by you today (December 22), on the number of people who died while in police custody over the past decade. The death of Blair Peach has already shown that, in the presence of a police squad, one can cause death with impunity.

In spite of falling standards in so many areas, we are still a democracy, and one must assume that we have the police force that we want, or, maybe, deserve.
How refreshing it would be to find that today's figures caused an outcry, but most papers have not even carried the story.
Yours faithfully,
R. ANTHONY LESTER,
15 Oak Hill Avenue,
Hamstead, NW3,
December 22.

Future of the British motor industry

From Dr D. W. Hughes

Sir, Now disappointing that Sir Michael Edwards (January 2) is falling into the same trap as the architect of British Leyland, with all its troubles, Lord Stokes.
To criticise the consumer, who in his choice of motor car has opted in very many cases for what he considers to be the best value for his hard-earned net income, is no substitute whatever for demonstrably providing a truly competitive product. Even less does it sell motorcars outside the United Kingdom, where loyalty to the Union Jack plays no part in the decision-making process.

Such pitiful arguments are an indication that British Leyland now feels unable to provide what the customer is looking for; it might meet with more success by persuading the Government to make purchase of BT vehicles a tax-deductible allowance.

Yours faithfully,
D. W. HUGHES,
58 Briarwood Drive,
Northwood,
Middlesex.

From Mr Terence Conran

Sir, Why, Sir Michael Edwards, is it that we design for Renault and not British Leyland?

Why do you not use the talented designers on your doorstep?
Why do you have to make a car designed in Japan?
Where is Sir Michael is your national pride?

Why haven't Saatchi and Saatchi, the advertising agency which has advised Sir Michael on his "Buy British" campaign, thought this one through?
Yours faithfully,
TERENCE CONRAN,
Conran Associates,
28 Neal Street, WC2.

From Mr Julian Ridsdale, MP for Harwich (Conservative)

Sir, As chairman of the British-Japanese parliamentary group, may I say how much I welcome the joint venture between British Leyland and Honda.

In many visits to Japan over the last few years I have done my best to encourage such joint ventures. I hope that there will be many more to help us catch up with other advanced industrial nations, especially in the field of technology and precision engineering.

Incidentally, in view of what Sir Michael Edwards says, I have only owned British cars and for the last 15 years have been well satisfied with my succession of British-made Minis, which have served me well in London and along the minor roads in my constituency.

What a pity, though, we could not produce more of them in the United Kingdom to meet our requirements.
Yours sincerely,
JULIAN RIDSDALE,
House of Commons,
January 2.

Historical documents

From Mr Alan G. Thomas
Sir, For Mr M. A. Faraday (December 27), it would seem that medieval documents have little or no value once a few facts have been extracted for a local history.

This shows a lamentable lack of historical imagination. Few medieval artefacts bring us into such intimate contact with individuals who lived perhaps 800 years ago. They are of far more importance and true value in themselves than any modern work which may derive from them.

In the hands of imaginative teachers documents may bring the past alive, especially in countries such as America, Canada and Australia, where there are no local medieval buildings to inspire students with the all-important "sense of the past". They are useful, too, in schools of palaeography. For these reasons, university and other major libraries collect them. Once in the hands of learned institutions, these documents become permanently available to scholars.

As for the private collector, documents are the only medieval objects

in available to people of modest means in any quantity. No wonder perceptive collectors treasure and preserve them while they are still grossly undervalued, as they are today.

As for monetary value, this is a major factor in their survival. Owners will not throw away items which they believe to be valuable.

In the nineteenth century, Sir Thomas Phillips was so distressed when he saw documents being used by shopkeepers as wrapping paper and by tailors, hatters, pastry cooks etc. in their work that he deliberately forced up the price of waste paper to the level of thousands of documents.

Mr Faraday would have found a soulmate in the wife of the Reverend Bingley, a nineteenth-century curate who compiled a (still unpublished) County History of Hampshire. After her husband had copied vellum documents into his history, she used up the originals as kettles holders.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN G. THOMAS,
16 Hobbly Street, SW10,
December 27.

Quality of bathing water

From Mr J. A. Wakefield
Sir, The EEC, quite rightly in our opinion, issued a directive in December, 1975, requiring member states to bring their bathing waters up to a mandatory standard within 10 years. Member states were asked to tell the Commission within two years what changes were required in their national laws and within four years to provide a report on the condition of the waters, which they had designated as bathing waters.

In order to comply with this programme it was abundantly clear from the start that it would be necessary to nominate the bathing areas at an early stage so that they could be monitored for water quality. In spite of pressure from us and from the water authorities, the Department of the Environment left it until July this year before issuing the water authorities to designate the areas in consultation with the local administrative authorities. The DOE indicated that only those waters should be classified where there were at least

500 people in the water at one time, regardless of the length of water, or where there were more than 1,500 people per mile.

No one will be surprised that as a result of these unreasonably high density figures, only 25 stretches of water round our coast qualify as "Eurobeaches". We have noticed, however, that our press and certain Members of Parliament have seized the opportunity to blame the EEC for this situation whereas in fact the DOE is entirely at fault. Nowhere in the directive is there any mention of bathers density and this interpretation is entirely that of the DOE.

Britain would have something to complain about if she had a stretch of Mediterranean coast to contend with. Our expenditure on measures to comply with this directive are minuscule in comparison with that of France or Italy.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. WAKEFIELD,
Chairman,
The Coastal Anti-Pollution League,
Alderbury, Dorset.

Heraldic dogs

From Mr R. M. Maxtone Graham
Sir, Dogs are not quite as rare, in Scottish heraldry, as your Edinburgh correspondent suggests (*The Times*, December 29). In addition to Hunter of Hunterston, the families of Udry of that ilk (two greyhounds in their fifteenth century arms), Forrester (a ratch-hound, according to Mackenzie's "Heraldry", 1680), and Clayhills of Invergowrie (greyhounds, *ibid.*) all had canine arms; and dogs are often found as supporters, for the arms of the Earls of Haddington

and Dundonald, Colquhoun of Luss, Baront, and others.

May I make two small corrections in the article? The two gold balls (more properly bezants or orbes) cannot be arranged in saltire, which is the shape of an "X". Perhaps "in bend" is what Mr Faux intended to say. The "insect" borne by the Maxtones of Cultree (the arms date back to 1410) is no ordinary insect, but is a bee with wings displayed (not "rampant") as the crest.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MAXTONE GRAHAM,
6 Moat Sole,
Sandwich, Kent.

No runs

From Mr Charles Clark
Sir, Answering Mr Harvey's query today (December 21) there is one other instance of both England's opening batsmen being dismissed for naught. In 1973 against Pakistan at Hyderabad Demess and Amiss both made ducks in the second innings. In the past, however, Australia have done worse still. Against England at Old Trafford in 1888 their first four batsmen all scored nothing!

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES CLARK,
Wiltown Close,
Curry Rivel,
Langport,
Somerset,
December 21.

Poor and in hock?

From Mr Alan Orme
Sir, How can we expect the young to court a bride of 1748 hock, costing about 28s in 1772, and selling for £260 some 207 years later, shows an increase of 18,571 per cent, not a paltry 2,000 per cent as you suggest (sale room report, December 7).

My home has increased in value by 1,500 per cent in a mere 20 years, so big figures have to be handled with circumspection.
Yours truly,
ALAN ORME,
Doverham,
Charlwood Drive,
Ossesh,
Surrey,
December 7.

سكان من الفجر

LAING
make ideas take shapeTHE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

- Stock markets**
FT Index 406.9, down 0.1.
FT 100s 64.50, down 0.11.
- Sterling**
\$2.238, down 27 points.
Index 70.5, up 0.3.
- Dollar**
Index 84.5, down 0.1.
- Gold**
\$630 an ounce, up \$62.5.
- 3-month money**
Inter-bank 16 15/16 to 17 1/16.
Euro-3 143 to 144.

IN BRIEF

Delegation of businessmen leave for Rhodesia

The first organized group of British businessmen to visit Southern Rhodesia since the lifting of sanctions leaves London today for a week-long "pathfinder mission" arranged by the Institute of Directors.

The six-strong delegation, led by Mr James Moorfoot, member of the Institute's council and chairman of Kodak, will examine the state of the Rhodesian economy and meet businessmen in the public and the private sectors.

The delegation will also meet the Governor, Lord Soames, and the leaders of the principal political parties. It will travel round the country to see mining, industrial and agricultural developments.

Leyland goes racing

Leyland Vehicles, the truck and bus arm of BL, is to co-sponsor a grand prix Formula One racing team in the 1980 sales drive. Unipart, BL's parts division, is also sponsoring a reported £500,000 on Formula One racing sponsorship this year. The Leyland Vehicles link-up is with the British-based Williams racing team, which won five grands prix last year. Its other team sponsor is the Saudi Arabian airline, Saudia, and the cars will bear the Saudi-Leyland name.

Army savings plan

The Army has given its approval to a savings and investment package designed by brokers Stewart Wrightson and Wilson and Co. The plan, which involves a single deduction from a building society and a medium and long term insurance policy. The money will principally be invested with Royal Insurance and Britannia Building Society. Individual financial advice can also be made available to any of the 160,000 soldiers who use the savings scheme.

Fewer days lost

A total of 563,000 days were lost through industrial disputes in November, far fewer than in the previous month or in the same month in 1978. But 1979 was firmly established as a worst year for lost days as a result of the days lost in the engineering dispute in the autumn. A total of 27,744,000 days had been lost by the end of November, with 17 million losses in the engineering industry.

Unions recruit

Trade union membership rose by 266,000 in 1978 to 13,112,000, according to the Department of Employment Gazette. About 71 per cent of union members were men. Between 1968 and 1978, union memberships rose by 3 million while the number of unions fell by over a fifth.

Fairey expansion

Fairey Holdings, one of the National Enterprise Board subsidiaries which is rumoured to be up for disposal, has acquired the low-pressure filter manufacturing company, Arlon BV of Arnhem, for £2m (£893,000) from the Chromalloy American Corporation.

UK oil flow cut

Oil production from the 13 United Kingdom offshore fields fell from 1.6 million barrels in October to 1.5 million in November largely as a result of gas flaring restrictions placed on the Shell/Essco Brent field.

Recession fears force industry to cut back on investment

By David Blake

A growing awareness of the imminence of a deep recession is forcing British industry to revise downwards its plans for investment this year and next, according to figures published by the Department of Industry.

The cutback is expected to be particularly fierce in manufacturing, which is exposed to intense foreign competition made more difficult by the high value of the pound.

Distributive and service industries are still expecting a slight increase in the volume of their investment this year, compared to a drop of 6 to 10 per cent being forecast by manufacturers.

The figures come from the response to the latest of the Department of Industry's regular surveys of investment intentions for industry and they make much gloomier reading than previous surveys. The survey shows that investment during 1979 is likely to turn out about 3 per cent lower than in 1978.

The fall in investment during 1980 is expected to be very sharp in textiles, clothing and the motor industry. Engineering, including shipbuilding and metal manufacturing, and the miscellaneous manufacturing group expect only small falls.

Although indications for 1981 are at a preliminary stage, it looks likely that there will be a further fall next year below this year's level.

Even during the 1970s, which were a bad time for investment in manufacturing, there was never an occasion when investment fell three years in a row, so the indications are deeply depressing for the prospects for British industry trying to compete in world markets.

It is expected that investment this year will be 18 per cent below the peak level reached in a manufacturing back in 1970.

One of the most striking features of Britain's investment performance in the past 10 years has been the decline in

the share of total investment attributable to manufacturing.

In 1970, manufacturing accounted for 54 per cent of all investment. This year it is expected to account for only about 40 per cent, although the figures may give a slightly false impression as they do not include leased goods as being investment in manufacturing.

Falling investment and reductions in the levels of stocks are expected by the Government to be a major part of industry's attempt to live with the consequences of recession during the coming year. The Treasury is forecasting a 2 per cent drop in total output for 1980 compared to 1979, the sharpest drop in recent years.

The recession of 1980 is already the best-advised slump of recent times and companies have clearly decided not to be caught out with over-ambitious expansion plans. The survey was carried out in the weeks from early October to the middle of December, so it gives the first official insight into companies' responses to the impact of the increase in interest rates announced in November.

It may, however, underestimate the extent to which companies will be forced to revise downwards their plans as a result of tight or expensive credit.

The only reasonably bright sector remains services, which expect to increase their investment by 5 per cent in 1980. The Government's hope is that, in the longer run, its policy of cutting back on public borrowing and taxation will make it easier for industry to raise the funds which it needs to invest and will make the profits which flow from that investment more attractive.

At present, however, industry seems to be responding in its traditional way by feeling that demand is the most important single factor influencing profits. If demand is going to fall, industry sees little point in making extra investment for goods which will not be sold.

Shell and BP sign up deals with Iran

By Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Shell and British Petroleum have tied up nine-month deals to buy crude oil from Iran at \$30 a barrel, which is \$6 a barrel above moderate Saudi Arabia's price and 28 per cent above the final quarter price for 1979.

Neither company has received contracts for as much oil as it wished. The volumes agreed are less than 50 per cent of those of the second half of last year and are a fraction of the quantities available during the Shah's rule.

A BP spokesman said the

company was "disappointed" to receive only 125,000 barrels a day compared with the 365,000 in the final quarter of last year and the 450,000 barrels a day initially agreed with the new regime in April. In the first nine months of 1979 BP lifted 1.1m barrels a day from Iran.

Shell has been promised only 95,000 barrels a day compared with 195,000 barrels a day in the final quarter of 1979 and 235,000 barrels a day agreed in April.

The price of \$30 is made up of the official government selling price fixed by Iran during the Opec meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, of \$28.50 and a premium element to produce an average of \$30 a barrel. This is a similar formula to that agreed with Japanese buyers, who, last year, are thought to have taken 455,000 barrels a day from Iran, equal to 10 per cent of Japanese imports.

Western governments will be pleased that Iran has proved unable to gain the reported demands of \$36 a barrel, although the price is among the highest being demanded by Opec countries since the Caracas meeting broke up.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, had made it plain to BP and Shell that the Government would be disappointed if such a high price were paid.

Yesterday BP said that despite the disappointing quantity it hoped to satisfy all group affiliates demands. But the further reduction in BP's crude oil supplies—adding to the loss of 100,000 barrels a day from Nigeria last August—must be a severe blow. BP has been negotiating a change in its agreement with the British National Oil Corporation to swap Middle East oil for the Government's 51 per cent purchase entitlement of Forties crude.

Shell UK came closest to buying more oil on the spot market because of Government restrictions on production from the Brent field. Both BP and Shell are likely to have to buy increased spot quantities.

Where Iran will sell its oil remains uncertain. It is not selling to American groups in reaction to President Carter's embargo, and cannot sell all its oil to Japan. It may be looking for government to government deals or to the spot markets.

Mr Ali Akbar Moinefar, the Iranian oil minister, has said Iran intends to produce between 3 million and 3.5 million barrels a day in 1980, but Iran has not yet signed contracts for anything like that quantity.

How much a barrel? page 15

Reserves up £136m in December, despite undervaluation of gold

By John Whitmore

Britain's reserves of gold and foreign currency rose by \$302m (£136m) in December, reversing four months' decline that had largely reflected the relaxation and, finally, abolition of exchange controls.

Latest monthly figures show that during 1979 official holdings of gold and foreign currency have increased by over \$7,000m, from \$15,694m to \$22,719m.

But the figures alone can be misleading. On the one hand, they exaggerate the size of the inflows in the sense that some \$4,500m arose from a revaluation of the pound. On the other hand, the year-end figure for the reserves clearly understates their underlying value—the \$178 an ounce March revaluation of gold holdings is now well adrift. Revaluation at the present gold price would lift the value of reserves to over \$30,000m.

Official policy is to revalue the gold holdings annually on the basis of average market prices in the three months to the end of March, less 25 per cent.

Even though this spring's revaluation looks likely to boost reserves appreciably, our holdings of gold are less than many

other countries. They are less than tenth of America's, and less than a quarter of the official holdings of Switzerland, France, Germany and Italy.

There has been good overseas demand for sterling for much of the year. Since the spring, however, official policy has been to limit intervention in the foreign exchange market to "smoothing" operations, although there was considerable intervention to hold the rate down during July.

Authorities also intervened last month as sterling met fresh overseas demand. The underlying inflow over the month was \$495m (after allowing for the net repayment of public sector borrowings made under the exchange cover scheme of \$70m and a capital repayment on long-term North American loans of \$121m).

Overseas demand for sterling during the year has been on capital account, acting as a counter to the outflow on the trade account. Overseas investors have been attracted to sterling as a petroleum currency and because of the high level of interest rates that have prevailed in the United Kingdom for much of the year.

In the year ahead, the Government is to repay \$1,800m of overseas currency borrowing.

Table, page 16



Yesterday morning's jump in the price of gold is chalked up in the office of a London bullion dealer.

Mining and metal shares reap benefit

By Peter Wainwright

The latest surge in bullion fuelled a fresh flight into gold and other metal shares yesterday. Even the poorest mines are profitable now if the new gold price holds. But in New York bullion began to ease, though it did so too late to influence share prices here.

Anglo American Gold rose a massive \$17.25 to \$100, while West Driefontein climbed \$1.50 to \$71.75. Consolidated Gold Fields rose 21p to 419p. Bullion dealer Johnson Matthey duly advanced 27p to 235p.

Dealers' platinum brought a 33p gain to 269p in Rustenburg, while better copper prices helped Rio Tinto-Zinc up 12p to 355p. Charter Consolidated rose 8p to 130p.

Australian mining issues were busy, and North Kalgoorlie rose 3p to 50p. But Northern Mining slipped 21p to 143p and Ashton Mining 15p to 149p on fears of the United States selling part of its diamond stock.

Buying from both the United Kingdom and the Continent brought good gains to Canadian mines but the profits were too tempting to resist, and most closed down on the day. Noranda fell 5c to 23c while Sherwin Gordon shed a 5c to 21c.

At home, both gilt-edged and ordinary shares remained neglected, but they rose above the worst on reports of a formula to reopen talks with British Steel. The FT index fell below 400 in the morning, but ended only 0.1 off at 406.9. Gilt finished up to a 1 better on the day.

Small investors lead an 'unprecedented' rush for gold coins

By Craig Seton

Thousands of gold sovereigns and half sovereigns are being sold as small investors cash in on the surge in the price of gold.

The Marble Arch branch of Barclays Bank, the only bank in Britain where sovereigns can be bought over the counter, has sold more than 1,000 of the coins in two days and ran out of them at one stage yesterday.

Before the bank's gold price fixing session the 22 carat coin was selling for £69.20 in the morning. By the afternoon, when gold had reached \$634 an ounce, the coin was fetching £78.95.

Barclays started selling the gold sovereign at the branch on December 11, when the price was £56, and since then has sold 3,000. Yesterday queues formed and some people were reported to be buying up to 50 coins a time.

A bank spokesman said: "The rush for sovereigns over the last two days has been unprecedented."

Krugerrands, the one ounce 24 carat South African coins, were selling at £285 yesterday, £24 more than at lunchtime on Wednesday and nearly £120 more than the price at the start of 1979.

Standard Chartered Bank said it had sold 30 at one

branch before 11 am, six times more than usual in a morning. One London dealer who sold out of Krugerrands on Monday said yesterday that that section of its business was officially closed for stocktaking.

"We have had a very big demand for them and obviously it looks as though gold can go higher," another dealer said. The ordinary investor was being tempted by the idea of quick profits but "somebody is going to get his fingers burned sooner or later."

Readers' jewellers expect their prices will have to rise within a few months to take account of the increased costs of pure gold in jewellery. One retailer said he fixed his prices once a year and it meant there were many good bargains for the clever shopper.

The British Dental Association said yesterday that many dentists have the new rate would be made retrospective to April. A spokesman said dentists must hope the new rates took account not just of the soaring cost of gold but also silver which was used in the amalgam for fillings.

German bids take all at IMF monthly sale

Washington, Jan 3.—The International Monetary Fund said today that three West German banks and their affiliates were the buyers of all of the 444,000 ounces of gold auctioned at record prices yesterday.

The successful bidders at the IMF's monthly gold auction

were the Dresdner Bank of Frankfurt and two of its affiliates in Luxembourg and Singapore. The Deutschebank of Frankfurt and the D.G. Bank of Frankfurt.

The IMF sold the 444,000 ounces of fine gold at this month's auction at a record average price of \$562.85 an ounce.

Matthew Brown & COMPANY LIMITED
Lion Brewery Blackburn

Extract from the Report and Accounts to 29th September, 1979

RESULTS AT A GLANCE—in £'000	1979	1978
Turnover	22,881	20,012
Profit before tax	4,126	3,541
Profit after tax and minorities	2,677	1,953
Earnings per share (as reported)	15.82p	11.55p
Earnings per share (fully taxed)	11.84p	10.14p
Dividends per share	5.0764p	4.3773p

Some points made by the Chairman, Mr. Cyril Ainscough, in mid-December, 1979.

- Turnover up 14% produced pre-tax profits up 16%.
- Some delays in spending on capital projects helped to produce exceptional interest received.
- 23-bedroom hotel completed last month in Worthington, and addition of 54 bedrooms, squash courts and swimming pool at Talgarth Hotel, near Preston, due to open in March.
- Beer sales up 2% after another summer of poor weather, most growth coming again from Slatton Lager.
- First beer price increase since last February unavoidable soon. Unsettling sales since September, and national conditions, point to increased pressure on margins this year.

David Blake



Mr Michael Vernon: in no hurry to leave.

Dalgety now assured of capturing Spillers

By Peter Wainwright

Just about the last act in the long-drawn-out but unsuccessful struggle by Mr Michael Vernon, the outgoing chairman, to keep Spillers' the flour-to-pet-foods concern out of the reach of bidder Dalgety, was played out last night.

Dalgety reported that acceptance had been received for its offer from holders of 91.7 per cent of the ordinary shares and 97.8 per cent of the preference capital.

Taking into account Spillers' shares already held, Dalgety now controls 94 per cent of Spillers' issued capital. Notices will be dispatched to enable Dalgety to buy compulsorily the remaining Spillers' ordinary and preference shares under section 209 of the 1948 Companies Act.

Spillers has continued to fight Dalgety to the last. In early December there was still a 17 per cent minority holding, big enough to stop Dalgety from integrating Spillers into its operations. A fall in Dalgety shares did not serve to induce the minority to give way. Mr Vernon was also in no hurry to leave the chairmanship.

However, the end was signalled in mid-December when Mr Vernon sold a large block of his shares in the market. He sold 136,724 of them at 43.5p late in November and a further 130,090 at 43p early in December. The latest annual report indicated a holding of 310,000 shares. The Dalgety offer was worth 43p a share.

Graduates fill managerial posts, but favour public services

Plenty of room at the top to spare in industry

Industry in Britain is failing to attract its fair share of graduates, and the problem gets worse when degree holders have had a few years to look around. In a survey of people who graduated in 1970 Mr Peter Williamson of the Department of Employment's Unit for Manpower Studies, shows in an article in the latest *Employment Gazette* that graduates are strengthening their grip on the managerial posts in the British economy, but that in 1977 it was the public administration sector which was particularly successful in attracting them, and it was commerce which did best at getting people who were "second-guessing" their career choice.

The survey reveals just how badly industry has done in recent years at getting and holding graduates. Most surprisingly, it shows that engineers are particularly successful at becoming managers, but that more and more of them are moving out of the manufacturing sector and into commerce or education. Mechanical and electrical engineering has the largest outflows.

The number of graduates that a sector of the economy has depends more on whether it is good at attracting people after their first job than how many it gets straight from university or polytechnic. It is in this field that industry does particularly badly. Commerce, on the other hand, seems to have an almost irresistible attraction for men with engineering and science backgrounds, who are disillusioned with industry, he commercial sector

also manages to attract some of the many women graduates who start out in public administration.

Women remain profoundly disadvantaged in the race for managerial posts; they have only half as much chance of reaching a managerial position early in their career as men do. This may be the cause or the consequence of their much greater willingness to move about from sector to sector—something which seems to have become much more acute in recent years. It is the best and the brightest, those with first-class honours degrees, who are particularly able and willing to move from sector to sector.

But whereas women seem more willing to move from sector to sector, men are more inclined to move from job to

job, so the poor performance of women cannot be put down to their unwillingness to stick at an activity.

The survey is based on questionnaires sent to over 12,000 people who graduated in 1970, half of whom sent back answers, and it has been checked to see that it is broadly representative. From the detailed figures within the survey it is possible to build up a picture of the extraordinary complex flows of people on their way to the top of industry. Some sectors of the economy, such as education, saw a marked reduction in their importance as job suppliers between 1966, when the last similar survey was done, and 1977.

David Blake

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Falls
Anglo Am Gold \$174 to \$180	Marshall Cav 24p to 19p
Barley Band 32p to 36p	Montedison 11p to 9p
Bracken Mines 35c to 35c	Mount Lyall 39p to 27p
Crocodile 30c to 47c	Rustenburg 35c to 61c
Johnson Matthey 27p to 23p	
	Falls
	ASMO 13p to 33p
	De La Rue 12p to 35p
	Electric Works 17p to 41p
	Hammerston A 20p to 69p
	Kent, M. P. 4p to 38p

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.99	Norway Kr	1.81
Austria Sch	29.20	Portugal Esc	1.68
Belgium Fr	66.75	South Africa Rd	1.54
Canada \$	1.24	Spain Ptas	9.55
Denmark Kr	12.39	Sweden Kr	9.16
Finland Mk	8.40	Switzerland Fr	3.71
France F	9.28	USA \$	2.24
Germany DM	4.01	Yugoslavia Dnr	47.00
Greece Dr	99.00		
Hong Kong \$	11.40		
Italy Lira	175.00		
Japan Yen	357.00		
Netherlands Gld	4.42		

Rates for small denomination bank notes and coins, supplied by the Bank of England, are available on request. Rates for foreign currency are available on request.



Italian TUC approves strike rules

After more than a year of discussions, the Italian trade union confederations of CGIL, CISL and UIL, who oppose regulation by law of strikes, last night approved a six-point document on self-discipline in industrial action.

It is more modest than envisaged, applying principally to public services and not to industry.

It affects "services designed to guarantee the protection of health and the safety of persons, and those in which the trade union movement identifies collective wellbeing and interests which require to be safeguarded."

Currency control fails
Zaire government's attempt to check inflation by withdrawing currency from circulation is progressively collapsing according to reports. Airports and frontiers were closed on December 25, but currencies have been pouring into the country across the closed frontiers, and corruption has been rampant.

US car output down
American car production for December 1979 was 28 per cent below the 1978 level. Although the car makers had been steadily trimming production plans in response to lower-than-expected new car sales, December's output was 3 per cent short of what was planned at the end of November. The figure was the lowest since the 1974 slump.

New Talbot closure
The management of PSA Peugeot-Citroën SA's Spanish subsidiary has ordered a new lock-out at its Madrid car and truck factory after reopening from a one month closure for 24 hours. Work had not resumed in the plant where the dispute is costing an estimated 300m pesetas (£2.05m) a day.

Exports to Iran fall
West German exports to Iran in the first ten months of 1979 fell by nearly two thirds to 1,960m Deutsche marks (£13m) from 5,770m Deutsche marks (£35.1m) in the first ten months of 1978. The decline was most obvious in engineering exports.

Dutch economic fears
The 1980s could be more difficult for the Dutch economy than the last decade and a change in wages policy is needed by the government and both sides of industry, Mr F. W. Rutten, secretary-general at the Economics Ministry, said yesterday.

Wide opposition to Inland Revenue's tax proposals for company cars

Managers cling to fringe benefits

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Although management organizations are against fringe benefits in principle, most are not prepared to see them ended yet. This is the main message contained in a flood of more than 200 submissions sent to the Inland Revenue in answer to its proposals to reduce tax concessions on company cars.

This week saw the closing date for reactions to the Inland Revenue's suggested changes, which are said to have far-reaching implications for the motor industry as well as for managers since about 70 per cent of all new cars sold in Britain are bought by companies.

A possible consequence according to the Institute of Sales Management, would be to force heavy users such as sales executives to buy their own cars and charge their employers for business use. This could result both in fewer new car sales and a lower proportion of British-made purchases.

Modifications suggested by the Revenue concentrate on company cars because, if pensions are excluded, these account for about 80 per cent of all fringe benefits.

The most contentious of the proposals is the abolition of the £3,500 salary threshold below which benefits

escape tax altogether. Other proposals are to raise the scale at which cars are valued for tax purposes to a "realistic level" and to tax any petrol and oil provided free by employers for private use at the same rate as cars.

A fourth change proposed is to index-link the value of more expensive cars but to retain the present system of grading cheaper cars by engine size.

The Revenue's case for altering the system is that at present it discriminates in favour of taxpayers who have private use of company cars. Those who use company cars to travel to work, for instance, have a tax advantage over their colleagues. The problem is in making a fair assessment of the benefit and drawing up a system which can easily be administered.

Companies argue, however, that there have not yet been sufficient cuts in income tax to counterbalance the effects of the proposed changes.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the Institute of Directors, calculates that if the plan was put into effect at once it would cost the man earning £10,000 a year with a company car an extra £114 a year.

There was a quite wide divergence between various organizations on the detail of the proposals.

The British Institute of Management, after consultation with its own members and those of the affiliated Institution of Industrial Managers, considers that the income threshold should be abolished.

But the Confederation of British Industry says that it should be retained and adjusted to reflect the general increase in salaries because the people affected are likely to be those who use their cars almost entirely for business purposes.

The Inland Revenue estimates that of a total of between 1.5 and two million company cars in use at present slightly less than 500,000 are provided for higher-paid executives and directors and at least a million escape tax because they are supplied to people earning less than £3,500.

A suggestion from the Freight Transport Association is for a combination of salary and mileage to be used to distinguish between cars which are "essential business tools" and those which are "perks".

Before the 1976 Finance Bill mileage was the main method of separating business from private use. But this required individuals to negotiate their own figures with the Revenue and proved difficult to administer.

UK's output record attacked

By David Blake

A searing attack on Britain's "catastrophic performance" in the international productivity stakes is launched in a pamphlet by Mr Graham Hutton, the economist, published today by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

In a revised version of his recent Wincott Memorial Lecture, Mr Hutton blames unions, Luddism, the growth of the state and spineless management for Britain's performance, which have resulted in our declining from second place in 1953 to twentieth in the list of the 24 leading industrial nations.

Top of his list of contributors to our problems are the trade unions, whom he blames for cutting back profitability and leading to the decline of manufacturing industry. Unions, he says, have been given extraordinary rights to usurp the proper functions of management. But he also asserts that managers, like the public and politicians, have been not merely spineless but "apathetic, ignorant, complacent and cushioned by government".

In spite of his gloomy dia-

Employment and Productivity										
Total economy, percentage changes, seasonally adjusted at annual rates										
	Average 1965-73	1974-76	From previous year 1977	1978	1979	From previous half-year 1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
United States	2.2	2.3	3.8	4.2	2.8	4.7	3.4	0.1	1.1	1.1
Employment	1.3	0.1	1.3	-0.2	0.1	1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7
GNP/employment	1.9	2.2	2.5	4.4	2.7	3.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
Japan	1.4	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.7	0.4	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Employment	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
GNP/employment	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.3	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Germany	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Employment	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
GNP/employment	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
France	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Employment	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
GNP/employment	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
United Kingdom	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Employment	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
GNP/employment	0.0	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Canada	3.3	2.8	1.8	3.3	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Employment	2.4	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
GNP/employment	0.9	2.3	0.9	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Italy	-0.8	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Employment	-0.8	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
GNP/employment	0.4	2.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

* Forecast values for 1979. † Great Britain, employees only. ‡ Based on GDP growth, excluding the contribution from North Sea Oil.

gosis of our past performance Mr Hutton believes we could solve our problems more easily. He lists a 10-point programme of cutting back the state's role, including reductions in benefits, which, he says, could have a dramatic impact.

He argues that this could end the decline of manufacturing.

Engineering company to close

By Ronald Kershaw

A Leeds engineering company which has repeatedly told its 260 workforce that action preventing it making a profit would eventually lead to closure, is to close soon.

The decision follows a strike of 160 engineering workers which started on December 13.

The company, Epco, which makes hydraulic jacks for the transport industry, is part of Booker McConnell. Mr David O'Brien, Epco's director, said the company had offered a pay increase of 16 per cent, made up of 6 per cent on general rates and 10 per cent on an extension of a productivity scheme, which would have given skilled workers a weekly wage of about £111 without overtime.

The offer was rejected by the strikers, and on December 31 the company announced it had decided to accept the men's repudiation of their contracts of employment.

Epco has been struggling for a number of years. It was bought by Booker McConnell in 1976, and a new management was recruited. Substantial losses were made in 1977 and 1978.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Abolition of import licence surveillance scheme

From Mr D. G. Franklin

Sir, You state that the abolition of the Import Licence Surveillance scheme (December 22) on January 1 will cause dismay to the British Textile Federation and will displace the TUC, as it poses a further threat to jobs in the textile industry.

There appears to be some misunderstanding regarding the purpose of this scheme, which was introduced in 1975. This was to monitor the intended import volume of importers and surveillance licences have been freely available on request. As it did not stop imports, but only registered intended import quantities, it was neither use-

ful nor saved jobs in the textile industry. Furthermore, in the scheme the Importers' Association of Trade, "it did not provide accurate information on levels of imports".

In any case, even without this scheme, accurate information has always been available on imports from the HM Customs computer at Southend which programmes all goods imported to and exported from the United Kingdom by Tariff Heading number groups.

Surveillance licensing was introduced at the end of February and the saving of the 20 staff at the Department of Trade pales into insignificance when

compared to the cost on the national import bill brought about by the need for importers to keep experienced staff engaged on unproductive and time-consuming work for their offices and those of shipping agents completing these forms. As shipping agents and many companies who import are in the export business, this added expense was a masked overhead expense on those companies' exports.

D. G. FRANKLIN, Director, David Franklin Limited, Leppington House, 121 Kensington Road, London SE11 6SQ, December 22.

Training for industry

From the Director, the British Woodworking Federation

Sir, The great deal of good sense was spoken in the debate in the House of Lords on December 19 stressing the importance of training for skills.

Perhaps, one of the additional reasons for our industrial decline has been the failure to appreciate fully that investment in long-term training for skills and expertise is as vital to the success of an investment in plant.

Over the years training programmes have been weakened by both the decline in the recognition of a proper status for skills and also the disruption of long-term training programmes due to abrupt fluctuations in our economic and industrial fortunes.

Despite many excellent training schemes in operation in industry and commerce, the country has yet to achieve a sustained training programme wholly adequate and adaptable for its changing needs and one which overcomes the structural and cyclical changes that hit confidence in training so hard. Paradoxically, it is important to step up training in lean times to meet the upturn several months ahead.

The Government would therefore be wise to re-examine their policies towards the training for skills in industry so as to ensure that the maximum incentive is given in the training and educational fields to encourage training programmes, which are inevitably very costly to firms undertaking them.

A fresh impetus to the long-term training programme would make a real contribution to converting inflation in the future. It would also increase our competitiveness with other major industrial countries and raise our national morale.

PETER SHAPCOTT, Director, British Woodworking Federation, 22 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AD, December 21.

From Mr J. N. Horne
Sir, The article, "Employers' experiment in sharing success" (December 10, 1979) by Patricia

Finniston Report on engineers

From the Secretary, the Institution of Civil Engineers

Sir, 1980 will be the year of the engineer. The Finniston Report, the implications of which its authors believe will enhance the status of engineers, will be published on January 9.

The Department of Industry, who appear to take over responsibility for all engineering, indicated at a meeting presided over by Mr Jack Leeming on Wednesday, December 19, 1979, that they wanted responses from the profession by the end of February, 1980. The reason given for requiring this electric reaction is that the Secretary of State is to issue a statement on behalf of the Government in support of the end of February, 1980. The reason given for requiring this electric reaction is that the Secretary of State is to issue a statement on behalf of the Government in support of the end of February, 1980.

There seems, however, one small obstacle to the smooth setting up of this new statutory authority. The Finniston Committee put it at many millions of pounds. Sir Monty himself said at a lunch with the CBI earlier this week and again at the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 18, that the Government cannot be expected to foot the bill, industry must do so.

For the past 160 years the construction industry has, by voluntary action, produced and supported the highest quality all-round professional engineer, recognized, admired and sought after throughout the world. It continues to do so, despite the reduced income resulting from cuts in public expenditure, with which it has taken on the chin in support of a healthy Britain. It is now to be legally compelled to meet the enormous costs of the Finniston proposals in order to achieve a standard less demanding than that already required.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT CAMPBELL, Secretary, The Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster SW1P 3AA, December 21.

Public sector's recruits

From Mr R. G. Opie

Sir, Your Business Diaryist comments (December 21) on the problems of Charles Williams, erstwhile chairman of the now-defunct Price Commission, and Sir Leslie Murphy of the NEB have faced as "public sector recruits", in getting back into the private sector. Nor are they alone. Similar problems were faced in 1970 by the then chairman of the old NBP.

It is, of course, mere coincidence that prominent members of public bodies seem to meet such "problems" only when these bodies have been created by a Labour Government. It would therefore be naughtily cynical to suspect a conspiracy.

Your Diaryist was admirably bland in declining to ask who

Insurance for old properties

From Mr Paul Paget

Sir, I cannot be alone in finding it increasingly difficult to keep up with the premiums on index-linked policies under which it is left to the insurers to stipulate what should be the appropriate cover.

This bears most heavily on the owners of antiquated properties which no one in his senses would think of replacing to obsolete standards of capacity and construction in the event of total loss, but to which compensation for partial damage is denied unless such premises are fully insured for their estimated present-day value plus VAT and architect's fees.

I question why the owners of such property should not be allowed to take the risk of insuring for a lesser sum which, in their opinion if not the insurer's, would attract by way of compensation, an acceptable contribution towards the cost of repair or economical replacement.

Surely, in the present economic situation, the so-called "average clause" by which the insurer's cost of replacement is reduced to the value of the property at the time of the loss, is no longer equitable and should be generally abandoned as has already been recognized in favour of some form of "open cover" where the funds are simply not available to pay for ever escalating premiums.

Yours faithfully, PAUL PAGET, Templewood, Northrop, Norfolk NR21 0LJ.

Effect of the 'chip' in accountancy

From Mr Alex Harrison

Sir, I notice that the Department of Employment suggests that there will be little job loss as a result of the increasing use of silicon chips.

How it can come to such a conclusion is beyond me. I have been one of the pioneers in the introduction of mini-computers in the small accountancy practice. Since 1972 I have seen my work force reduced from fourteen to two men and a girl. These are not only my own work but part of another practice.

The great thing, however, is that by using computers much of the work which I am now doing is only necessary because other practices and organizations are not computerised. For instance, the typing of accounts and computations for taxation

purpose is only necessary because Tax Inspectors and my clients have not the necessary equipment to read the information which I hold on floppy disk.

Into the bargain the accountancy and taxation programmes are stored on the same disk and there is no reason why in a short time the link client/accountant/Tax Inspector cannot be reduced to client/Tax Inspector.

In my opinion at least one profession is being smothered by such talk as the micro-chip will not affect jobs into complacency and many at the moment are training 30,000 young people who may find that they have no work for their skills.

Yours truly, ALEX HARRISON, 11 Kingsway House, King Street, Bedford.

Employment Bill and the closed shop

From the Director, the Association of Contractors' Plant Association

Sir, A report appeared in The Times (December 20) about the CBI closed shop agreement. The previous day and the discussion there on "closed shops" (union membership agreements) in general and on the Government's Employment Bill in particular (at which I was present).

Your report states that "much of the earlier (CBI) policy has been incorporated in the Employment Bill, which proposes, for instance, that closed shops should be introduced only after a ballot has established that at least 80 per cent of employees are in favour."

The proposed legislation of course, does not such thing, and it is most important that this fact should be widely known. The Employment Bill before Parliament at the present time

merely states that such shops should be introduced only after a ballot has established that at least 80 per cent of employees are in favour."

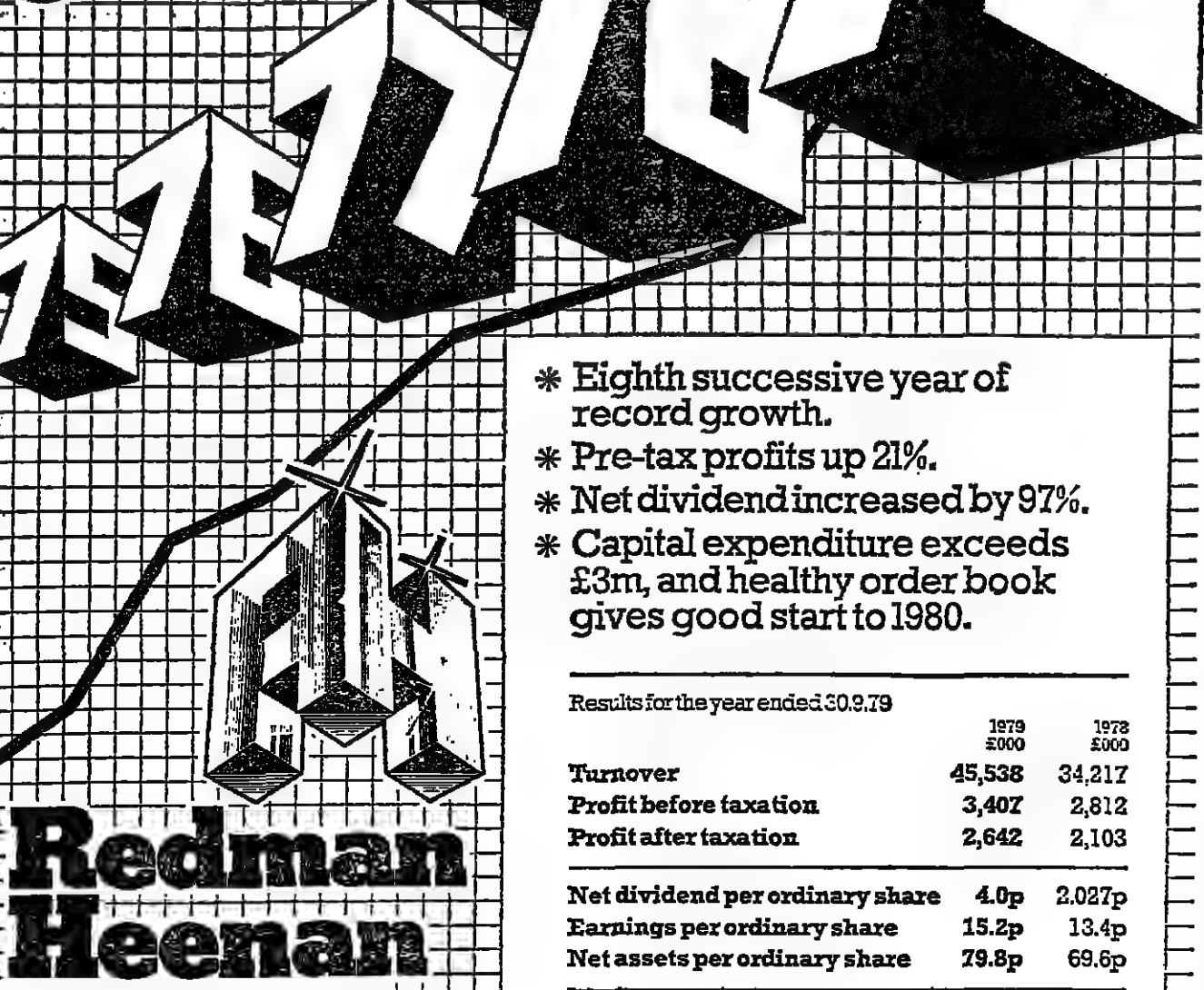
This excessively modest provision will not, of course, be any effective restraint whatsoever on the introduction of new closed shop agreements for which either no ballot at all, or a favourable vote of less than 80 per cent, has taken place. Those in any doubt on this point should read the Bill and also the article in your newspaper of November 26, by a senior CBI officer, Mr Nield, who pointed out that the failure to secure an 80 per cent vote in favour attracted no penalty

and would not be an effective deterrent to any determined trade union.

It is the balanced recognition of this state of affairs by some businessmen and others which leads to a "tougher attitude" towards the generally inadequate provisions of the current Employment Bill. Even most trade unionists must find the introduction of new closed shop agreements perfectly acceptable and, indeed, a necessary condition for the current legislation should provide for anything less.

R. C. SANSOM, Director, The Contractors' Plant Association, 28 Eccles Street, London SW1W 9PY.

Continued growth



- * Eighth successive year of record growth.
- * Pre-tax profits up 21%.
- * Net dividend increased by 97%.
- * Capital expenditure exceeds £3m, and healthy order book gives good start to 1980.

Results for the year ended 30.9.79

	1979	1978
Turnover	45,538	34,217
Profit before taxation	3,407	2,812
Profit after taxation	2,642	2,103
Net dividend per ordinary share	4.0p	2.02p
Earnings per ordinary share	15.2p	13.4p
Net assets per ordinary share	79.8p	69.6p

Redman Heenan International Limited

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

International markets continue turbulent

Yesterday evening's glimmer of light in the steel dispute was enough to send the bears scurrying for cover in domestic financial markets. The FT Ordinary Share Index, which briefly dipped below 400 in mid-morning, rallied to close the day only 0.1 adrift at 406.9, while gilts reversed early losses to finish the day up to 25p higher.

Whether or not there will in fact be an early resumption of steel negotiations remains to be seen, but even if there were to be a quick return to the negotiating table and a rapid resolution of the dispute, markets would pay careful regard to the cost of the settlement.

Meanwhile, international financial markets continued on their turbulent journey. As noticeable yesterday as the fresh surge in the gold price was the performance of the dollar vis-à-vis the Deutschmark, with the United States currency briefly dipping below the psychologically important Dm1.70 level before recovering, on official support. Gold and silver were more volatile than ever. As intriguing as how much higher the gold price could yet go is the issue of the level at which the price is likely to stabilize once the present mayhem subsides and the speculators have cashed in their profits.

Rights issues

Special cases only

Meanwhile, the rights issue market remains in limbo. The queue, where it was so difficult to find a place a couple of years ago, no longer exists and nothing suggests it will be reformed until later this year at the earliest.

Pilkington's experience, its first in the rights market, underlines all this. The glassmaker seemed to be tempting providence when it stepped in with its £60m offer early in December and the outcome this week shows that it was a narrow scrape with shareholders taking up 73.6 per cent. The remainder, thanks to a neat operation by Pilkington's issuing house, Schroder Wagg, was placed in the market on Wednesday afternoon at a 1p premium over the 200p issue price at which Pilkington offers a 71 per cent yield.

All of which was much more satisfactory than Schroder's last big rights issue for Thomas Tilling last summer when some 75 per cent was left with underwriters, an event which at the time seemed effectively to mark the last significant shot in the rights issue market which had extended over three years.

The argument for going ahead with Pilkington in December in spite of the poor omens was that it was a major Blue Chip company (moreover one that has an undoubted technological lead in its industry) which needed to strengthen its balance sheet in front of a £120m bid for BSN-Gervais-Danone's non-French glass interests.

A special case, perhaps, even allowing for the inactivity of the rights market, and Schroder's judgment—more or less correctly as it now turns out—that the issue would succeed. Not that there was much alternative, apart possibly from bank borrowing which is at least allowable for tax. The corporate fixed interest market remains

dead—anyone, even with the credentials of Pilkington, would probably have to pay between 15-16 per cent for 10-year money, and that just isn't on at this stage.

Mining shares

As the gold price soars...

Gold shares are behaving more cautiously than the bullion price. While gold leapt up by 124 per cent in 1979 fuelled by heavy speculation, the gold mines index advanced by about 80 per cent during the year. The outcome is that yields are now exceptionally high, with 30 per cent no longer rare.

The reason why gold mining stocks are lagging behind the price of the metal even after yesterday's leap in mining shares stems from the fact that whereas gold profits are made on the metal's marginal spot price, what counts for gold mines is the average price over an accounting period. Thus, current high yields suggest that few actual or potential holders of gold mining shares expect the average gold price for 1980 to be anywhere near its present spot level.

It does not follow, though, that gold shares are a poor bet. Rather, it means that investors find predicting an average gold price difficult, and that they are therefore careful about how to rate the shares. Nevertheless, barring a huge slump in the gold price, consistently high dividends from the mines are likely in 1980.

The question for investors is whether to go directly into individual mines or go through mining houses. Superficially, the abolition of exchange controls has made direct investment in foreign mines more attractive, but mining houses are currently trading at significant discounts to assets, which in the case of major houses can be between 30 and 50 per cent.

Moreover, the enormous cost of developing new mines and the increasing interest being shown by oil companies in mining offers the possibility of extensive reorganization, takeovers and mergers in the sector. The way to invest in gold now is through mining houses with good quality gold mines and a hedge in the form of other mines and industrial interests.

Consolidated Gold Fields, one of the stock market's more exciting shares at the moment, is an obvious example. The new Union Corporation-General Mining tie-up also looks promising.

Fodens

Borrowings are rising

There is a sense of *deja-vue* in Fodens revelation that it came close to the brink of disaster during last year's engineers strike. It is less than four years since City institutions bailed out the truck specialist with a £3.2m placing of convertible shares. Just 12 months after the last of these shares were converted Fodens reveals a loss of £1.73m in the interim period following a previous full-year loss of £562,000. Borrowings, which stood at £12m at the year-end, dwarfing shareholders funds of £10.5m, have continued to grow.

Nevertheless, the shares held their ground at 35p yesterday and have speculative attractions, whatever the outcome of Fodens' current bid to grab United Kingdom market share through its new S10 range of trucks. Fodens is now making profits, though nothing like enough to offset the first half losses, and order books are healthy, while a steel strike of perhaps up to 6 weeks could be withstood. Even so, having fought off a bid from Rolls-Royce Motors in 1977, Fodens again looks like a sitting duck for a takeover bidder. Without that, a continuing liquidity problem is going to constrain recovery.

Technology

Among the National Enterprise Board's investments in advanced technology is three "green field" electronics and computing ventures—brand new operations set up from scratch—continue to attract controversy.

Immos, the microcircuit company which is developing micro-computer and memory circuits, is under fire for its choice of Bristol (and not an assisted area) for its first United Kingdom factory. Nexos, the office automation company, has yet to establish credibility in the marketplace.

The third new company, Inscac, is rather different, a collaborative effort between existing companies. It is unique in its organization and it conducts its business in the exotic world of computer software, which brings its own problems.

Inscac is Britain's major public sector software organization. As a National Enterprise Board subsidiary it is subject to the present Government's new NEB guidelines which require the board to dispose of its shareholdings to private ownership as soon as is practicable.

The NEB holds shares in each of the Inscac member companies—Computer Analysts & Programmers (CAP), Systems Programming (SPL), Systime, Sys-

tems Designers (SDL) and Logica—but because of the advanced technology nature of their business and their role in Inscac strategy the disposal of the NEB shares in these companies is likely to be delayed.

The architect of Inscac was Mr John Pearce, a former managing director of the Hoskyns software consultancy, who became the first managing director of Inscac in June, 1977. The idea was that Inscac would sponsor the development and overseas exploitation of software products written by the member companies.

The chief executives of the member companies came together as members of the Inscac board. Two problems became apparent—potential conflicts between the interests of their companies and of Inscac and the personality clashes that are inevitable when independently successful entrepreneurs (and Mr Pearce is at least an entrepreneurial as the rest) have team participation thrust upon them.

These factors contributed to the slow rate at which members' software projects were endorsed for Inscac exploitation. Another factor was that the Inscac scrutiny of members' proposals was particularly thorough and the importance of good

market research was stressed. Inscac's software products in general may have been slow to take off, but Mr Pearce lost no time in opening up a new market opportunity. This concerned videodata—linked television/telephone information systems of the type pioneered in the British Post Office's Prestel service.

Inscac negotiated an exclusive United States licence to Prestel, set up an international videodata centre at SDL premises in Frimley, Surrey; signed an agreement with General Telephone and Electronics Corporation (GTE) for the joint exploitation of videodata services in the United States; and installed the first privately owned videodata system in The Netherlands.

By the middle of 1979 Inscac's initial five-year plan had been changed to reflect the realities of the business as it had developed. Two separate operations had emerged—one to provide finance for member companies via the so-called "product bank" (the original Inscac objective) and one to market a range of videodata systems.

In the second of two articles on the 1949 devaluation Peter Hennessy and Malcolm Brown describe the heated arguments which took place between the Chancellor and the Foreign Secretary at the British Embassy in Washington.

Cripps and the search for a whiter loaf

The story of the 1949 devaluation still has some secrets left to tell. Treasury files for the crucial period of two weeks in July, when the ministers left in charge in the absence of Sir Stafford Cripps, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, finally came over to the devaluationist camp. Were not among those released to the public under the 30-year rule on Wednesday.

Possibly historians will have to wait for the memoirs of Mr Douglas Jay to discover how, as Economic Secretary to the Treasury, he persuaded first Mr Hugh Cateskill, the Minister of Fuel and Power, then Mr (now Sir) Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, and later, in a common effort with the others, the Prime Minister, Mr Atlee, that devaluation was inevitable.

At the end of July Mr Jay drafted a letter to Cripps at his senatorial in Zurich explaining the Government's latest position on devaluation. Mr Cateskill approved its contents; the Prime Minister signed the letter at Chequers and it was conveyed to Cripps in Switzerland.

Mr Edward Playfair (later Sir Edward), a Treasury official, now began to plan the detailed implementation of Operation Rose, the secret code-name for the 1949 devaluation.

The full Cabinet—including Cripps, who had returned from Zurich on August 18 apparently restored to health—met on August 20 to be told of the decision. Mr Atlee opened the meeting by saying in the language of the minutes: "Opinion had hardened in favour of devaluation, although it was realised that this was not in itself provide a solution of the long-term problem. He recommended that the Foreign Secretary should be authorized to discuss devaluation at Washington and to form a view, in the light of these discussions, on the amount and the timing of this measure."

The still sceptical Cripps said it was impossible to show arithmetically that devaluation

would prove advantageous and he doubted whether any considerable benefits would accrue by way of increased dollar receipts. The minutes record Cripps as adding:

"An atmosphere had, however, been created in this country, in the United States, and in other countries in which the pound could not reach stability without devaluation."

The Cabinet agreed that "if satisfactory arrangements could be reached with the United States Government, it would be in the interests of this country to devalue the pound."

Before the Cabinet reached its decision, Mr Robert Hall (now Lord Rosenthal), Director of the Cabinet Office, and the earliest advocate of devaluation inside Whitehall, had already left by air to prepare for the long-arranged Anglo-American ministerial talks in Washington.

The voyage of Cripps and Bevin had its bizarre moments. Lord Armstrong, then Mr William Armstrong, who had been appointed Cripps' private secretary in August, recalls that the first thing the Chancellor did when he boarded the ship was to pace out the deck to ascertain how many times he would have to circumnavigate the liner to complete his daily three-mile run.

The passage was rough in parts. Cripps insisted on Armstrong's presence, him propping the swimming pool after his run. The pitch of the boat was so extreme that Lord Armstrong recalls one end of the baths almost emptying as waves sloshed around the swimming

power-house—home computer. Quilter believes that the front room computer could soon cost about the price of a colour television set. In the United States, a colour television set costs about the same as a home computer.

Before the home computer market gets properly established in Britain, Quilter sees a strong case for video recorders and video cameras for home movies taking a hold of the family's imaginations and pockets.

The rental companies agree that discs are more likely to be bought than rented, but the higher costing video cameras might offer the renters an opportunity to expand their hold on the market.

The march of electronics into the home could hold some rich pickings for the renters—not unwelcome since there are signs of a switch to outright buying of television sets as reliability has improved.

According to the Department of Employment, *Guests, academics at Nottingham University's Department of Psychology have been using a simulated button-sorting line to study the effects of exposure to repetitive work. Among the things they discovered was that a worker's "level of arousal"—that is the extent to which we feel alert, awake and active—decreases across the working day as a function of length of exposure to the work. Such an astonishing discovery frankly sends me to z z z...*

Dennis Topping

Kenneth Owen

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DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

SOUTH AMERICAN LADY, fluent in Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese, English, German, Russian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, Greek, Turkish, Arabic, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc. Apply to: 01-492 1120.

Appointments

GENERAL VACANCIES

Department of Community Medicine

RESEARCH ASSISTANT/FIELDWORKER

For two years. A research assistant in a public health project. The work will involve data collection, interviewing and fieldwork. Training will be provided. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. Apply to: 01-492 1120.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

CAMBRIDGE with previous experience in legal research. Apply to: 01-492 1120.

PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

Young and energetic to take charge of the Finance Section. Salary: £5,500-£10,775 (under review). Request (quoting Ref. T) for details and application form to: Personnel Section (Academic), UWIST, Cardiff CF1 3NU. Closing date: 29 January, 1980.

Association of Teachers of Domestic Science Ltd.

DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY

An able administrator is required to share with the General Secretary the day to day running of the Association. The post involves a great deal of correspondence and administrative work. Previous experience essential. Previous work in education or with a professional or similar body an advantage.

Salary scale: £2,500-£6,000.

Particulars of duties and conditions of employment from the General Secretary, ATODS Ltd., 10, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9SE. Tel: 01-492 1120.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets: Late rally on hopes of steel peace

Gold shares continued to dominate proceedings yesterday, while the steel strike and problems overseas would only allow the remainder of the market to look on in awe.

The latest surge in gold shares began as soon as dealing resumed in London yesterday and followed on from overnight levels in New York where the bullion price reached \$579 and Hongkong where it touched \$650.

Trading elsewhere was mainly thin throughout most of the day, as equities continued to drift lower as a result of the steel strike which was beginning to make its presence felt.

There is a growing interest in Henry Wigfall, the television renting concern, once bid for unsuccessfully by Comet Radio. On the occasion the unit of the controlling shareholders blocked Comet's path. Speculators are now telling one another that this unit can no longer be relied on. The share is 208p.

Gilt-edged were another weak sector where falls of about a £4 were reported throughout the day. Once again, dealers were taking the view that the Middle East, Afghanistan and the strike had effectively postponed falls until a March budget.

However, the announcement in inter-union dealings that the iron and steel union leaders had resumed talks with BSC changed all that.

After falling below the 400 mark during the morning, its low point for the day, improving

to 5.1 down at 3 pm, the FT Index went on to close 0.1 easier at 406.9.

Equities gave a firmer appearance at the close, while in gilt, longs turned falls of £1 into a rise and shorts turned losses of £1 into gains of about £1.

This was borne out, too, among leading industrialists where some earlier heavy falls had been either cancelled out or turned into only small net losses. ICI managed to turn in a net rise of 1p on the day to 355p, while those unchanged included Glaxo at 435p (in spite of vague rights issue rumours), Unilever at 452p, Becton at 115p and Pilkington Bros at 200p.

The leap in the bullion price of London market, up 82.5 at \$630, saw further activity among gold shares, where the Gold Mines Index leapt 14.6 to 303.1. But profit-taking towards the close and the decline in the price of bullion on the resumption of dealing on the New York market saw most finish off the top.

Among the majors, Vial Reefs climbed \$11 to \$671, Anglo American Gold leapt \$17.25 to \$100 and West Driefontein advanced \$11 to \$74. Anglo American, Anglo Rand jumped 30p to 365p. Vencor's stock edged ahead 9p to \$10.62, Leslie 30c to 330c and Libanor \$1 to \$17. In the London Financials, Cons Gold improved 21p to 419p, after 420p, RTZ 12p to 355p.

Profit-taking, however, saw Tanks slide 6p to 265p, and Selection Trust 3p to 601p. The surplus surrounding golds spilled over into other precious metals where Rustenberg jumped 39p to 278p, Impala advanced 7p to 270p, while diamonds De Beers expanded \$1-1/16 to \$11.

Activity in Vesper is not based entirely on calculations or hopes that compensation, when it eventually appears, will equal the group's market value. Most of the group's interests are now in Singapore, well away from United Kingdom engineering troubles, and there has been a big buyer operating in the market. The shares are 173p.

Strong activity was also noted among Canadian mines, where dealers reported heavy buying from Europe and the UK. But one again profit-taking saw most finish below their best. Gibraltar Mines leapt \$C11 to \$C107 and United Kenno finished \$C11 higher at \$C443. Profit-taking led to a fall in Sheritt Gordon \$C1 off at \$C131 and International Nickel \$C1 lower at \$C271.

Adverse comment overnight "down under" saw the recent

rise in Australian shares come to a grinding halt. Ashton Mining dipped 15p to 150p, while Northern Mining fell 21p to 144p. But North Kalguri managed a 3p rise to 51p.

Among companies reporting, Electronic Rentals dipped 8p to 87p following its interim statement while Mr Paul Bristow's company, KCA International, improved 2p to 44p after its statement and a rise in the dividend.

On the bid front, Highland Distillers slid 4p to 140p as it waited for further developments from its suitor, Hiram Walker. C. T. Bowring was 3p lighter at 123p, still reeling from its announcement earlier in the week to take up an injunction against Marsh & Maclellan. Sotheby's P.B. was nervous ahead of its figures next week, slipping 10p to 393p.

De La Rue, another dull spot of late, continued its downward journey, sliding 12p to 530p, but Johnson Matthey, with its strong interest in precious metals, climbed 27p to 233p. Equity turnover on January 2 was \$85,690m. (10,584 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph were, Northern Kalguri, R.T.Z., Shell, GEC, Johnson & Matthey, Barclays Bank, Burmah Oil, Lams, ICI, Rascal, Vickers and Furness Withy.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	date	date	total
Electric Rentals (I)	86.9 (35.6)	5.6 (8.7)	4.8 (5.7)	1.16 (1.1)	28/2	— (2.6)
Fodens (I)	28.6 (23.2)	1.7 (0.8)	1.1 (0.4)	0.57 (0.5)	1/4	— (1.1)
W. Tomkins (I)	10.0 (8.7)	0.62 (0.7)	— (—)	1.33 (1.3)	March	— (4.7)
Howden Grp (I)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2.0 (0.3)	15/2	— (1.0)
KCA Int (I)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a loss.

KHD sale to Fiat

Kloekner-Humboldt-Deutz AG of West Germany is selling its 20 per cent interest in International Vehicles Corporation (IVECO) to Fiat.

Fiat, which so far held 80 per cent of IVECO's 11.5m share capital, will become the sole owner of the company once jointly formed by Fiat and KHD to make and market commercial vehicles of the Italian and West German companies.

A spokesman said KHD would continue to supply air-cooled diesel engines to IVECO but has decided to abandon its financial engagement in the commercial vehicles company incorporated in the Netherlands.

International

CSR of Australia says it now holds 2.7m of the 2.72m Haughton Sugar Company ordinary shares on issue, equal to about 99.1 per cent of the Queensland company's capital.

As previously reported, Haughton's directors accepted CSR's offer for the Haughton stock it did not already own.

Thomson's \$139m bid

Thomson Newspapers says it has submitted a cash offer to purchase all the issued and outstanding shares of FP Publications of Canada for a total of about \$139m.

The offering price is \$4,000 per class A share, \$2,500 class B share and 10 cents per share for class X and class Y preference shares.

Thomson said that while the

offer is for all of the shares, it gives Thomson Newspapers the right to purchase fewer than all the shares if not all shareholders accept the offer.

The offer is open for acceptance until Jan 14 but may be extended by Thomson at its option, the company said.

Int Harvester

Melbourne.—A rural boom has swung International Harvester Australia back into the black in 1979. Directors report. The buoyant rural sector was one of the main reasons for a massive \$10m (Australian) turnaround by the farm machinery and truck group.

Peachey Property set to grow

Peachey Property Corporation, formerly headed by Sir Eric Miller, is set to expand in the current year. Chairman Lord Louis told shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday that, apart from seeking opportunities for investments and developments, Peachey will be looking for suitable portfolios and companies to buy.

Following the £12m sale of the Park Hotel (flat block, near Marble Arch) in London to Gulf & Western Peachey all but wiped out its debt and currently has some £7m in cash and liquid assets.

The chairman warned shareholders that while the economic climate is not too helpful, with interest rates for short-term cash at 15 per cent and property returns centring on 8.5 per cent, the company is well placed to move forward and to look to the future with increasing confidence. The shares at 113p stand at a discount of almost 70 per cent to the net asset value of 177p a share.

F H Tomkins 16 pc up in first half

Buckle and nuts and bolts manufacturers F. H. Tomkins managed a 14 per cent uplift in turnover for the six months to October 31, 1979, from £7.4m to £10m. Pre-tax profits during the period moved ahead by nearly 16 per cent to £825,000 from £717,000.

The board states that it is unable to make a credible second-half forecast in the light of the general economic climate and the present position of the steel industry. They say, however, that the group is trading satisfactorily at the moment.

Hudson Bay Mining

Toronto.—Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting is increasing its price for fullplate electrolytic cathodes by four cents a pound to \$1.29 a pound in Canada and \$1.10 (US) in the United States.—A.P.—Dow Jones.

Swire Pacific stake

Swire Pacific says it has acquired a 40 per cent stake in a can manufacturing plant being built in Hongkong by Continental Can Hongkong.

Continental Can Company, a subsidiary of Continental Group of US, retains a 60 per cent stake in the venture, currently under construction at the Tai Po industrial estate in Hongkong's new territories.

TV rental groups achieve top profits

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

The most profitable consumer electronics renters, over three years, accounted for 65.9 per cent of pre-tax profits from 99 companies analysed by Inter-Company Comparisons Business Ratios in a report on consumer electronics published yesterday.

John Foord

plant and machinery valuers

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publication.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

10.00 am What-a-Mess: A Frank Muller story about his pet dog. The title: A Prince.
10.05 Jackanory: A story by 13-year-old Philip Quail: A Battle of Worlds. Read by Martin Jarvis.
10.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon. The Mystery Mansion Magic Mix-Up (r).
10.30 Why Don't You...? Advice for TV-sated children.
10.55 Magic Roundabout: Dougal and Gai (r).
11.00 Mickey Mouse Club: part 2 of Toby Tyler.
11.20 Greatest Heroes of the Bible: Jethro in Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar, and Jeff Corey in David and Goliath.
12.05 pm News and Weather.
1.00 The Osmonds: the American singing family (r).
1.30 Mr. Men: puppet show. Mr. Mean and Mr. Tickle (r).
1.45 International Tennis: Final qualifying matches in the British Airways World Doubles Championship from Olympia (see also BBC 2 at 3.55 and 10.50).
2.55 Play School: John Dale's story. Stolen Tarts in the Cattle of Hearts.
4.20 One Cab's Family: tale of an ambitious taxi.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as BBC 1.
3.55 pm Closedown at 11.25.
3.55 International Tennis: Final qualifying matches of the British Airways World Doubles Championship.
5.35 Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe: Episode 2 of this old (1930s) serial. Freezing Terror.
5.55 Atoms for Enquiring Minds: Penultimate part of the lecture by Professor Eric M. Rogers of Princeton. Today's subject: Atoms and energy.
6.35 The Brothers Lionheart: Final instalment of the Swedish-made fantasy. Jonathan versus the monster Kala.
7.30 News: with subtitles for the hard of hearing.
8.00 Quietly in Bulgaria: The World Federation of the Deaf conducts sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
8.30 In the Country: The second of artist Gordon Bennings' trilogy about his home village of Great Gaddesdon. It is now harvest time.
9.00 Pot Black 80: Opening of the twelfth series. In tonight's first game in Group 1, we see Ray Reardon play fellow Welshman Terry Griffiths. In tonight's first appearance in Pot Black (see Personal Choice).
9.25 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: opening match in the Marley Trophy series. Ben Crenshaw is

BBC 2

partnered by Sean Connery and Lee Trevino by Hollywood actor Robert Stack. From the Kings Course, Glenageary Hotel, Scotland (see Personal Choice).
10.15 A Celebration for Stéphane Grappelli: second and final section of the recorded concert given at the Royal Albert Hall to celebrate the jazz violinist's 70th birthday. His guests include Julian Bream and George Shusterman.
11.20 News and weather.
11.35 Ian Dury and the Blockheads: The British rock band, in a concert recorded at Queens University, Belfast (r).
12.15 am Music at Night: The tenth movement from Liszt's Christmas Tree piano suite—Once Upon a Time played by Rhonda Gillespie. Closedown at 12.25.

THAMES

9.30 am The Search for the Persian Royal Blood: Part 2 of this documentary takes in the Hittite culture.
10.20 Film: Evil Ray Slade. Comedy about a reformed bank robber (John Aspin). Also stars Mickey Rooney.
11.55 The Bubbles: cartoon. Rain Cloud's Holiday.
12.00 Song Book: Ditties for young viewers.
12.10 pm Once Upon a Time: Puppet stories, including The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse.
12.30 Simply Sewing: Dressmaking for beginners.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Crown Court: the verdict in the case of the blinded postman.
2.00 Film: El Dorado. Actionful,

LONDON WEEKEND

7.00 The Muppet Show: American just trumpet player Dave Gries is the solitary human being in the show.

Regions

12.30-1.00: Family quiz, breezily handled by Ted Rogers.
8.30 A Sharp Intake of Breath: Start of another series about Peter Barnes (David Jason), the man who will have no truck with bureaucrats. Tonight: some trouble over a washing machine.
9.00 The Second Part of the Irish Shaw Thriller, starring Jean Simmons and Glenn Ford. A kidnapping plot at a film festival.
10.20 News.
10.30 Best Sellers: continued and concluded.
11.00 News: Unauthorised comedies about two American families.
11.45 Chopper Squad: Adventure stories about Australia's helicopter rescue service. A ferry collides with a freighter.
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